May 6, 2020

Scripture and Reflection Questions

**Mark 4:30-32**

“Again he said, ‘What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.’”

**Luke 10:38-42**

“As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, ‘Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!’

‘Martha, Martha,’ the Lord answered, ‘you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed – or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.’”

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1. The parable of the mustard seed reminds us that even the smallest of acts can become something that provides comfort, security, and life for others. Who do you know that might need even just a small bit of encouragement? How can you give it to them?
2. What is the importance of empathy? How can knowing the worries, fears, and struggles of other people help you become more Christ-like?
3. The story of Martha and Mary is one we’ve discussed before – how does it speak differently to you 8 weeks into quarantine? Have you spent some time sitting at the feet of Jesus and recognizing He is King?
4. Even though it might be a while before we return to “normal” – but when we eventually do, what habits do you recognize might be potential distractions for you that you don’t want to fall back into?