

Edward Church

Oct 15, 2023

Getting My Focus  
Back!

Luke 10:38-42



**Break Your Focus**



# **Break Your Focus**

**Satan Wants to Rob Your:**

- **Personal Blessings**
- **Your Ability to Be a...  
...Personal Blessing**



# **Break Your Focus**

**Satan Wants to Rob Your:**

- **Personal Blessings**
- **Your Ability to Be a...  
...Personal Blessing**

**He Doesn't Just Want to Stop Your Momentum  
He Wants to Prevent it from Ever...  
...Starting Back Up Again!  
How?**



**FOCUS**

## **Proverbs 29:18 (KJV)**

**<sup>18</sup> Where *there is* no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy *is* he**



**FOCUS**

## **Proverbs 29:18 (KJV)**

**<sup>18</sup> Where *there is* no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy *is* he**

**Vision= Clear Word from God**

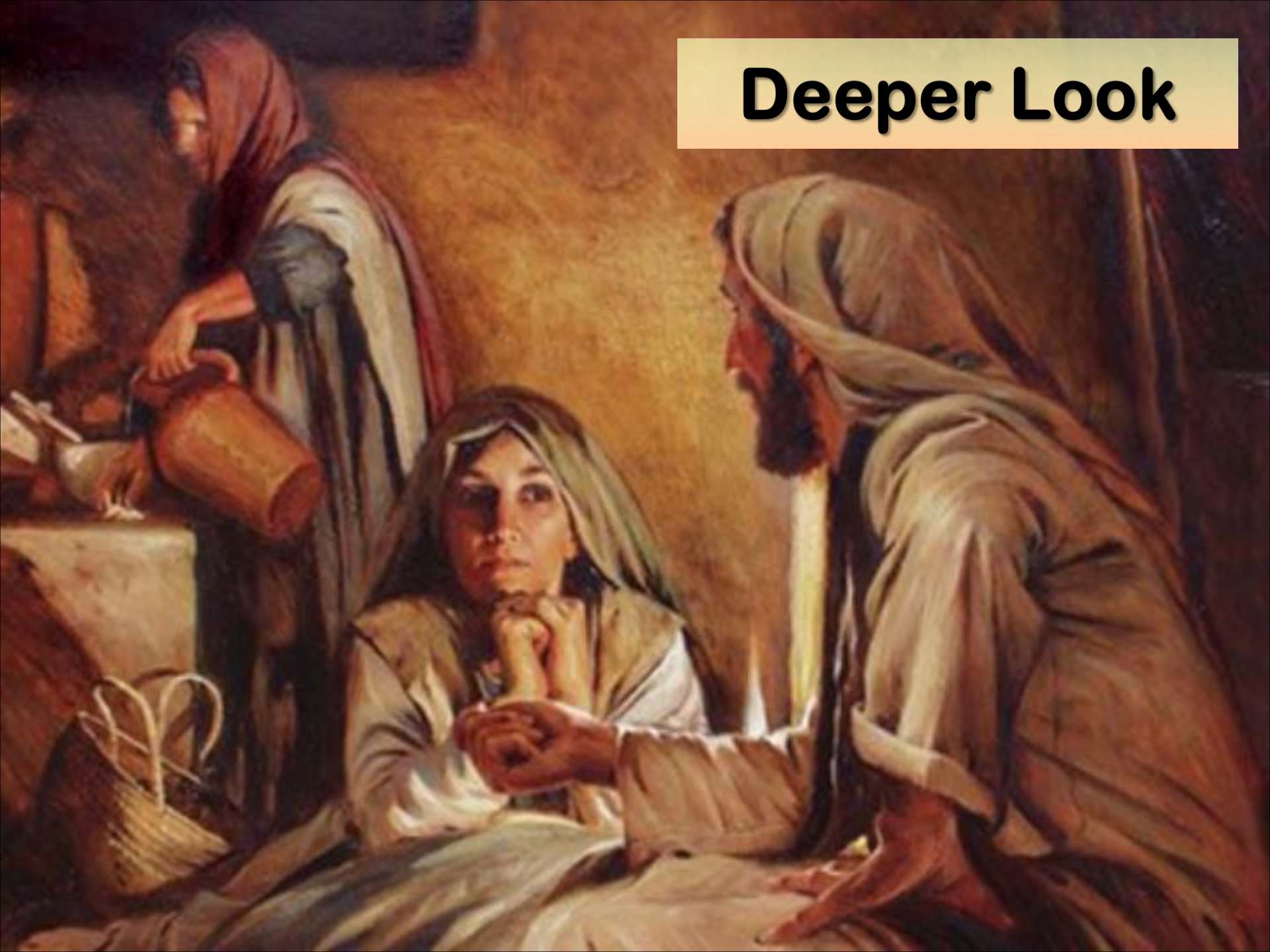
- **Unbroken Focus**

**Perish= Pine Away**

- **Slowly Let Go**



# Deeper Look





# Deeper Look

**These Sisters had a Lot in Common.  
Both were Loving, Sincere Women Who:**

- Close to Jesus
- Spent Time with Him
- Welcomed His Presence Now





# Deeper Look

**These Sisters had a Lot in Common.  
Both were Loving, Sincere Women Who:**

- Close to Jesus
- Spent Time with Him
- Welcomed His Presence Now

**But Now the “*Similarities*” Begin to Change  
Starting with their...**

**...Focus on “*His Presence*”**



# Deeper Look

**One was Preparing to...**

***“Work for Him”***

**The Other was Preparing to...**

**Let Him *“Work Through Her”***





# Deeper Look

**One was Preparing to...**

***“Work for Him”***

**The Other was Preparing to...**

**Let Him *“Work Through Her”***

**One was Being...**

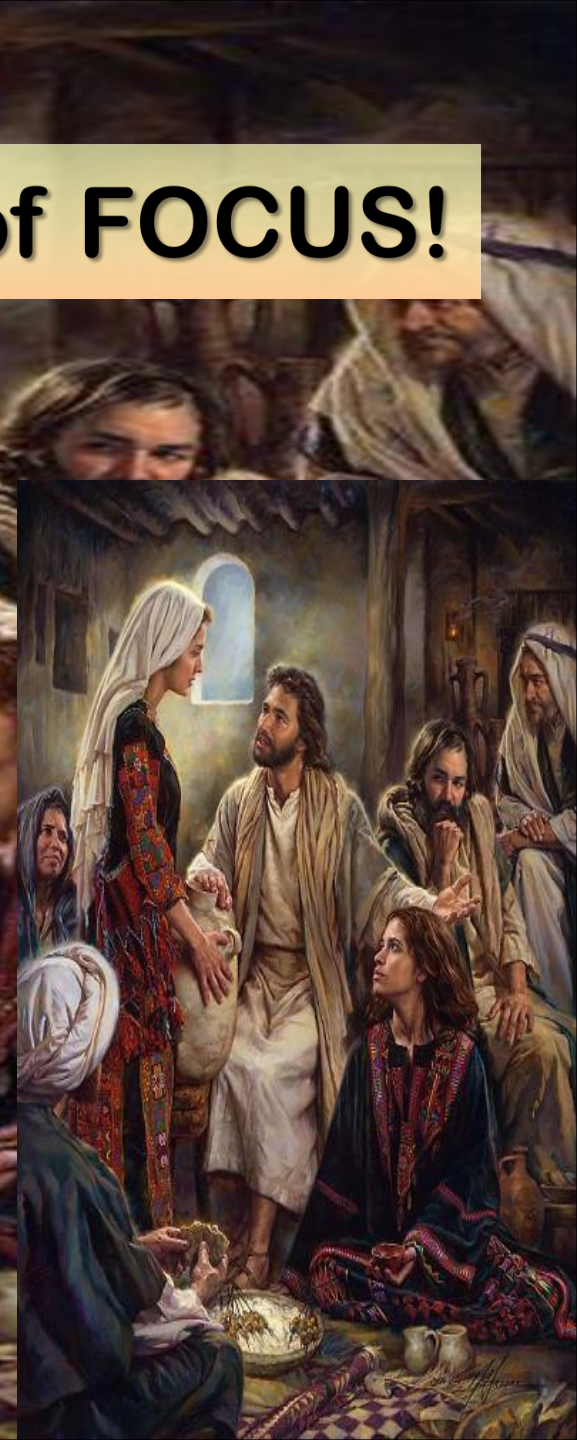
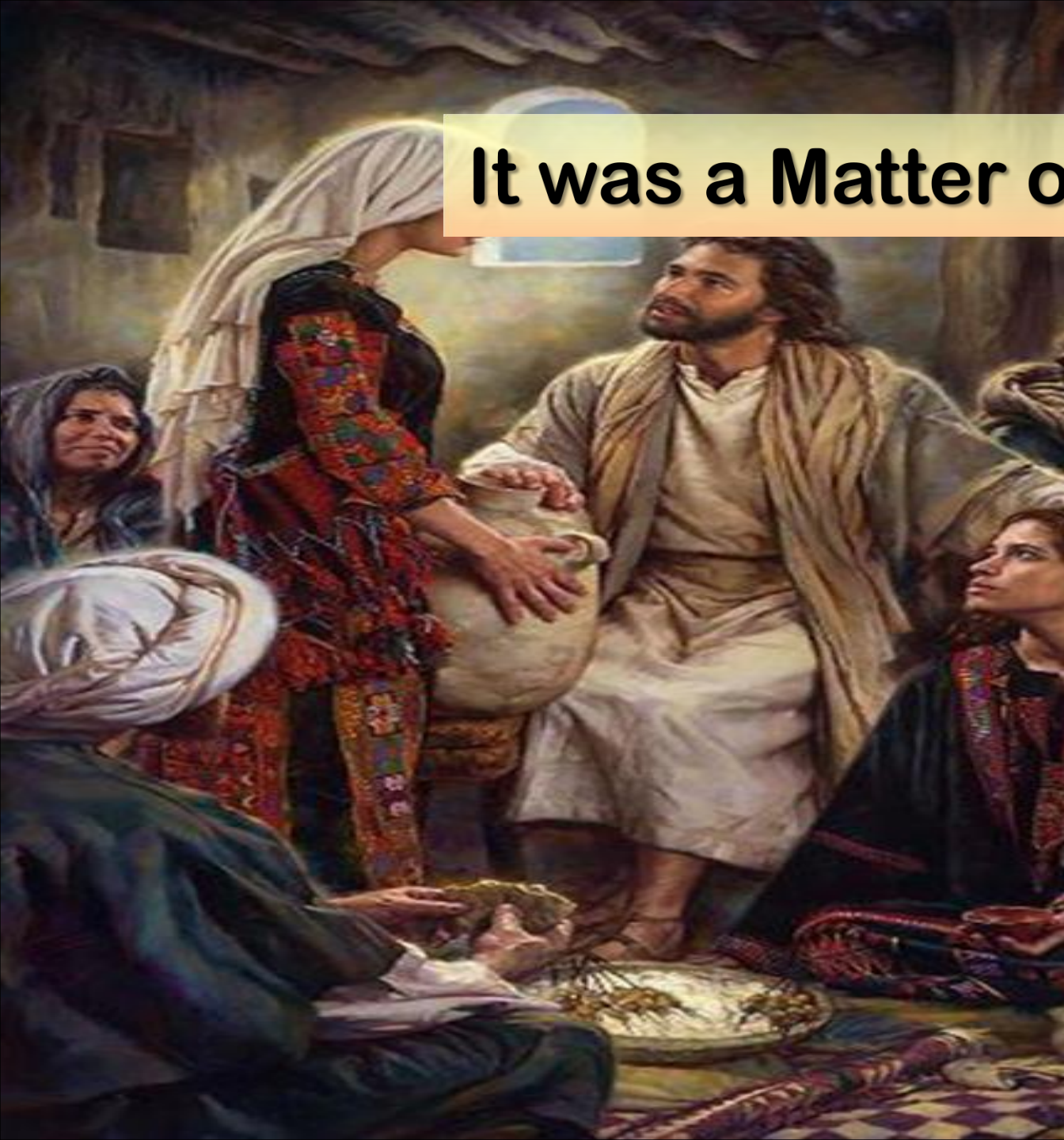
**...Stressed!!!!!!!!!!**

**The Other was Being...**

**...Blessed!!!!!!!!**



**It was a Matter of FOCUS!**







**It was a Matter of FOCUS!**

**Both were Seeking to Do the...  
Right Thing !**

**But One Did It the...  
Wrong Way !**



A religious painting depicting Mary sitting at the feet of Jesus. Mary is on the left, wearing a white headscarf and looking down at Jesus. Jesus is on the right, looking up at her. They are in a room with a small arched window in the background. The scene is set against a dark, textured background.

## Getting Back My Focus

### Speaks of “Position” (39)

- Mary Sat at the Feet of Jesus
  - Sat (*means > to just sit, but sit near*)
    - got as close as Possible



A religious painting depicting Mary sitting at the feet of Jesus. Mary is on the left, wearing a white headscarf and looking down at Jesus. Jesus is on the right, looking up at her. They are in a room with a stone wall and a small arched window in the background. The scene is dimly lit, with light coming from the window.

# Getting Back My Focus

## Speaks of “Position” (39)

- Mary Sat at the Feet of Jesus
  - Sat (*means > to just sit, but sit near*)
    - got as close as Possible
- Acts 22:3 Paul taught “*feet of Gamaliel*”
  - At the Feet of the Master...
    - ...Proper Place for a Disciple
  - Place of “Submission”
  - Place of “Peace”



# Getting Back My Focus



## Speaks of “Position” (39)

- Mary Sat at the Feet of Jesus

- Martha Went to the Kitchen

# Getting My Focus On the Right Voice

## Speaks of “Perception” (39)

- Mary Heard the Words of Christ
  - Heard (*cont listening & hearing*);
    - Didn't tire of His Teaching
  - It implies= continued thinking after He quit talking



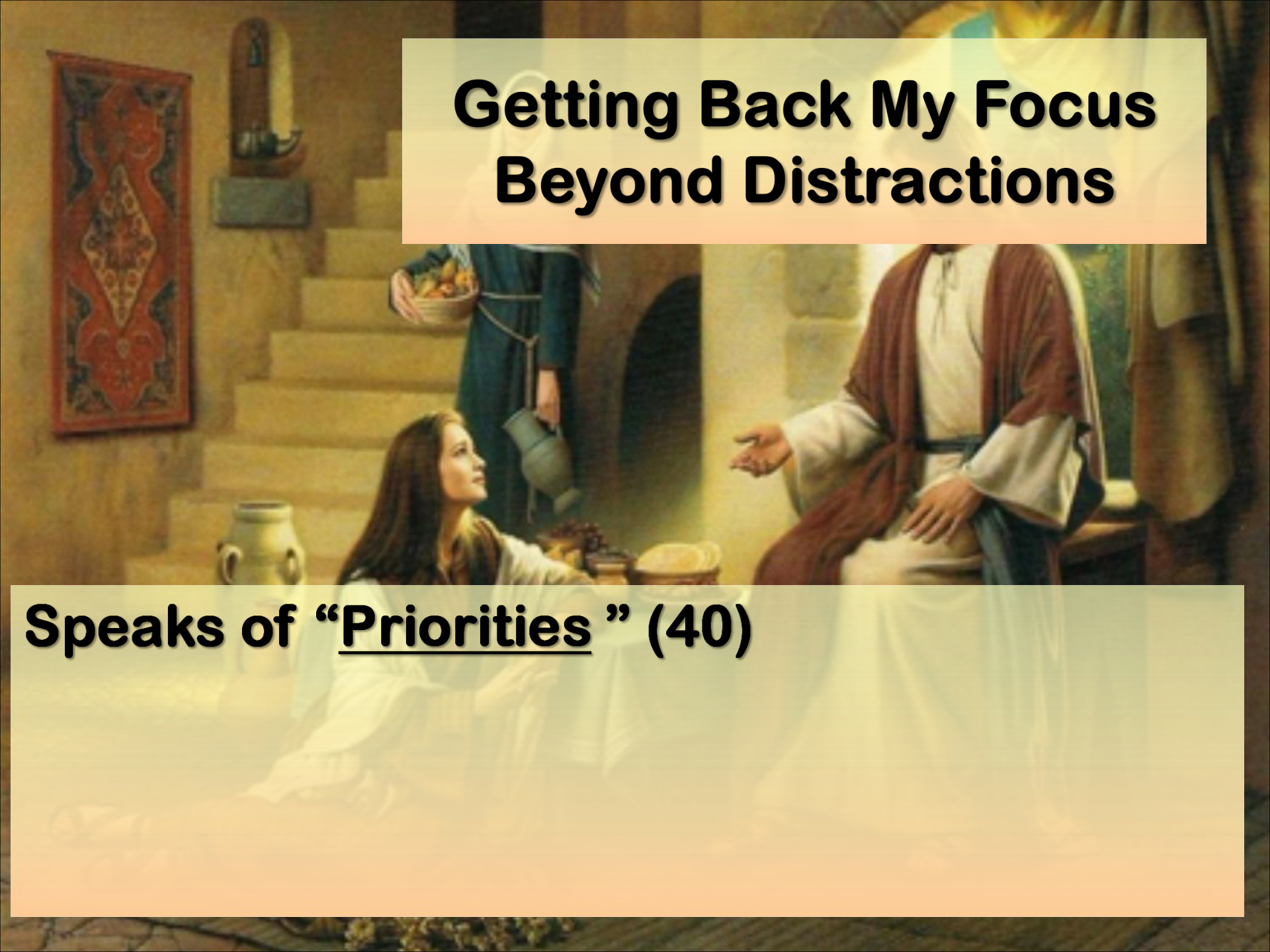
# Getting My Focus On the Right Voice

## Speaks of “Perception” (39)

- Mary Heard the Words of Christ
  - Heard (*cont listening & hearing*);
    - Didn't tire of His Teaching
  - It implies= continued thinking after He quit talking
- Martha Couldn't Hear the Words of Christ
  - Distracted by “Commotion”

# Getting Back My Focus Beyond Distractions

Speaks of “Priorities” (40)





# Getting Back My Focus Beyond Distractions

## Speaks of “Priorities” (40)

- **Mary’s Priority was Being Close to Christ.**
  - Not Aware of Events about to Take Place
  - Still Refused to take His Presence for Granted



# Getting Back My Focus Beyond Distractions



# Getting Back My Focus Beyond Distractions

## Speaks of “Priorities” (40)

### 2. Martha's Priority-Serving Christ and others.

- Serving (*diakonias*-“*deacon*”)
  - She was Being a Deacon/ Servant
- Cumbered (*to be driven about mentally;*
  - *to be distracted; to be over-occupied;*
  - *too busy about a thing*)



# Getting Back My Focus Beyond Distractions

## Speaks of “Priorities” (40)

### 2. Martha's Priority-Serving Christ and others.

- Serving (*diakonias*-“*deacon*”)
  - She was Being a Deacon/ Servant
- Cumbered (*to be driven about mentally;*
  - *to be distracted; to be over-occupied;*
  - *too busy about a thing*)

**Could It Be She Took His Presence...  
...for Granted**

The background of the slide is a painting depicting two women, Mary and Martha, in a domestic setting. Mary is on the left, wearing a white robe and a headscarf, with her arm raised in a gesture of praise or blessing. Martha is on the right, also in a white robe and headscarf, looking towards Mary. The scene is set in a room with a brick wall and a table with various items on it.

# Getting Back My Focus Beyond Distractions

## Mary was Blessed – Martha was Busy

### It is Possible to Work

- Outside of Anointing (*no call*)
- Beyond Anointing (*called but overloaded*)



The background of the slide is a religious painting. It depicts a scene with several figures in white robes. In the upper left, a figure's arm is raised in a gesture of blessing or praise. In the center, a figure is shown in profile, looking upwards with an open mouth, possibly in prayer or singing. The overall tone is warm and spiritual, with soft lighting and a focus on the figures' expressions and gestures.

# Getting Back My Focus Beyond Distractions

**Mary was Blessed – Martha was Busy**

**It is Possible to Work**

- Outside of Anointing (*no call*)
- Beyond Anointing (*called but overloaded*)

**It is Possible**

- To have Enough to Get you Going...  
...But Not Enough to Keep you

**Danger**

- Burnout
- Rust out



# What We Do in Life Echoes in ETERNITY

*~ Maximus*

The righteous  
shall be in  
everlasting  
remembrance.

(Psalm 112:6)



**The Voice Blog**  
[www.orthodoxnet.com/blog](http://www.orthodoxnet.com/blog)




# What We Do in Life Echoes in ETERNITY

~ *Maximus*



**Psalms 112:6-8, “Surely he shall not be moved for ever: the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. <sup>7</sup> He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD. <sup>8</sup> His heart is established, he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies”**

# **Danger of Broken Focus**



**FOCUS  
ON  
JESUS**

The image features a magnifying glass with a gold-colored frame and handle, positioned over a white background. Inside the lens, the words "FOCUS ON JESUS" are written in large, bold, red capital letters. Surrounding the lens, various words are scattered in black, bold, sans-serif font, representing different aspects of life and potential distractions. These words include "social media", "friends", "school", "money", "fun", "sex", "relationships", "work", "travel", "time", "career", "mone", "relat", "tra", "I", "we", "drugs", "us", and "rela". The magnifying glass is tilted slightly to the right, and its handle extends from the bottom left corner.



# Danger of Broken Focus

## Distorts...

- ☐ **Balanced Life**
- ☐ **Relationships**
  - **Martha was Distracted**
    - **Relationship with the Lord**
    - **Relationship with Mary**



# **Danger of Broken Focus**

## **Distorts...**

- ☐ **Balanced Life**
- ☐ **Relationships**
  - **Martha was Distracted**
    - **Relationship with the Lord**
    - **Relationship with Mary**
- ☐ **Our Vision**
- ☐ **Personal Joy**
- ☐ **Prayer Life**



**<sup>12</sup> Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. <sup>13</sup> And you will seek Me and find *Me* when you search for Me with all your heart. <sup>14</sup> I will let Myself be found by you,' declares the LORD, 'and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you,' declares the LORD, 'and I will bring you back to the place from where I sent you into exile.'**

**–Jeremiah 29:12-14 NASB**

**<sup>12</sup> Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. <sup>13</sup> And you will seek Me and find *Me* when you search for Me with all your heart. <sup>14</sup> I will let Myself be found by you,' declares the LORD, 'and I will restore you from all the nations you have driven out. I will bring you back to the land I sent you to. —Jeremiah**

## **This Weeks Assignment**

### **Work on Your Focus**

- Seek His Presence**
- Honor His Presence**
- Move in His Presence**
- Trust His Presence**



# Pray for ISRAEL

*Father, show us Your glory.  
When those in distress cry out to  
You, answer them and save them.*

Pray  
for  
Israel



PrayerWall

for the Nation and the World. [wordpress.com](http://wordpress.com)



May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect you! <sup>2</sup> May he send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion! <sup>3</sup> May he remember all your offerings and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices! *Selah*

<sup>4</sup> May he grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans! <sup>5</sup> May we shout for joy over your salvation, and in the name of our God set up our banners! May the LORD fulfill all your petitions!

<sup>6</sup> Now I know that the LORD saves his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with the saving might of his right hand.

<sup>7</sup> Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

<sup>8</sup> They collapse and fall, but we rise and stand upright.

<sup>9</sup> O LORD, save the king! May he answer us when we call.





**Texas rancher, visiting a South Dakota farmer friend, asked him to show him his farm.**

**After seeing the 1,000-acre spread, the Texan bragged that down-home he could get into his Ford, drive all day, and by evening would not have gotten to the distant point of his ranch.**

**The South Dakotan simply replied, "You know, I had a Ford once."**