

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA YOUNG PEOPLE

SPRING PURSUIT

BEING WATCHFUL IN LIFE AND FAITHFUL IN SERVICE

Session Seven —Ministry Reading

Who Then is the Faithful and Prudent Slave?

Verses for Pray-Reading:

Luke 10:39 And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at the Lord's feet and was listening to His word.

Ministry Reading:

The Motive for Serving the Lord

Believers do not serve the Lord because of outward encouragement or pressure from man. We serve the Lord out of the inward motivation of our love for the Lord. Our love for the Lord inwardly compels us to serve the Lord. It urges us to serve Him. Our love for the Lord makes us unable not to serve the Lord. We love the Lord, so we must serve the Lord. This is typified in the Old Testament by the slave who loved his master. Although the slave could have been free and did not need to continue to serve as a slave, he did not want to go out free because of his love for his master. He willingly remained as a slave to serve the master whom he loved. This is our motive in serving the Lord. We become His servants and serve Him willingly because of our love for Him. Our service to the Lord comes out of our love for Him. (*Crucial Truths in the Holy Scriptures, vol. 3, p. 445*).

Listening to the Lord's Word and Knowing His Desire

When the Lord came to Bethany, Martha received Him and served Him. However, Martha served the Savior according to her own concept and understanding. She thought that after making a long journey the Lord wanted to be served with material things. Therefore, she was busy in doing many things for the Man-Savior.

In 10:39 Mary sat at the Lord's feet listening to His word. Later, she prepared ointment to anoint Him before His death. How did Mary know to do this? I believe she came to know this through listening to the Savior's speaking. By sitting at the Savior's feet and listening to His word, she came to know His desire and preference.

Today most of the Lord's saved ones are busy trying to serve Him. They may also be trying to make the Savior busy. But those who know the Lord and who know His desire and preference would say, "Don't be so busy. The Lord wants to rest. The most precious thing to Him is not that you work for Him or try to do things for Him. What is most precious to Him is that you sit with Him and silently listen to His word. If you sit with the Lord and listen to His word, you will know His desire and preference." (*Life-Study of Luke, Message 26*).