

# Will You Miss Out In 2019?

We are only a few days away from the New Year and sometime between now and then would be a good time to reflect on how the year went. Give yourself some time with a journal and consider asking yourself questions such as these: *“What went right?”*, *“What went wrong?”*, *“Did I grow closer to God in 2018?”*, *“Did I work too much or too little?”*, *“Did I spend enough time with those I love the most?”*, *“Did I read enough?”*, *“Do I know the Bible anymore now than when I started the year?”*

If you have never done it, this is a great time to stop and think *“Where is my life heading?”*, *“If I continue on the path that I’ve been on in 2018, where will that lead me?”*, *“Am I living a life that is glorifying God?”*, and here’s the question I like the best:

***“What can I do in 2019 that will lead me to a closer relationship with Jesus?”***

Can we ask ourselves a better question than that?

**Luke 10:** <sup>38</sup> *As Jesus and the disciples continued on their way to Jerusalem, they came to a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home.* <sup>39</sup> *Her sister, Mary, sat at the Lord’s feet, listening to what he taught.* <sup>40</sup> *But Martha was distracted by the big dinner she was preparing. She came to Jesus and said, “Lord, doesn’t it seem unfair to you that my sister just sits here while I do all the work? Tell her to come and help me.”*

<sup>41</sup> *But the Lord said to her, “My dear Martha, you are worried and upset over all these details!* <sup>42</sup> ***There is only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her.”***

## **“my sister just sits here”**

By reading verse 42 I think it's a great question to ask. What was Mary doing exactly?...

“Her sister, sat at the Lord's feet, listening to what he taught.”

And what was Martha doing? “But Martha was distracted by the big dinner she was preparing.”

Jesus was present. Mary had her priorities straight and was focused. Martha was distracted.

Mary “just sits here”, and Martha is “worried and upset over all these details”.

I can think of so many other things to be concerned about and I am sure that you can too, but Jesus makes it clear: **“There is only one thing worth being concerned about.”** And in the NASB: **“but only one thing is necessary”**

## **Remember who Jesus is?**

This is Jesus speaking, Son of the Living God. Shall we do a quick review of just who this man is?

### ***Colossians 1:***

*<sup>15</sup> Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation,*

*<sup>16</sup> for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him.*

<sup>17</sup> *He existed before anything else,  
and he holds all creation together.*

<sup>18</sup> *Christ is also the head of the church,  
which is his body.*

*He is the beginning,  
supreme over all who rise from the dead.  
So he is first in everything.*

<sup>19</sup> *For God in all his fullness  
was pleased to live in Christ,*

<sup>20</sup> *and through him God reconciled  
everything to himself.*

*He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth  
by means of Christ's blood on the cross.*

## **Is that clear enough for you?**

Let me get this straight as I review what the Bible is telling me:

***Jesus, the Head of the Church and Supreme Being over all. The One who made all things seen and unseen is telling me that the only thing worth being concerned about and the one thing that is necessary is to just sit and listen to what He teaches.***

**Did I get that right? Read it again, I'll wait.**

WOW! I re-read it too. It seems to me that Martha didn't get it. As far as Martha was concerned Mary was "just sitting there". She saw no value in it. What she was doing had to have been far more important, or so she thought. After all, she was "working" to please the Messiah (Think of the self-righteousness here). I think Martha understood who Jesus was, but she was clearly missing out by being distracted.

***Psalm 51:*** <sup>16</sup> *You do not desire a sacrifice, or I would offer one.*

*You do not want a burnt offering.*

<sup>17</sup> *The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit.  
You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.*

This message is about as “counter-cultural” as you can get today. Even within the church, it seems to be all about service/working and I don’t hear “sit and read/or listen” enough.

*Psalm 46: <sup>10</sup> “Be still, and know that I am God!  
I will be honored by every nation.  
I will be honored throughout the world.”*

<sup>11</sup> *The Lord of Heaven’s Armies is here among us;  
the God of Israel is our fortress.*

## **Being still is required**

I don’t think this verse 10 can be overstated. In order to be transformed into “Christ-like” individuals *being still* is required.

Do you realize that we have the opportunity to sit and learn from Him every day? That is if we focus and purposefully make the effort to be with Him. The more I do this the better off I am. The more peace I have. I learn just a little more about Him each day. The more I can tell others about Him because I have a greater conviction and a better testimony.

It’s not like I spend all day reading His Word, but it is taking care of the one thing worth being concerned about and everything else throughout the day, as it turns out, is of little concern in comparison.

The great thing about reading the Bible daily, spending time with Him, is that every night when you lay your head on the pillow you can say to yourself “At least I did that which is most important, thank you Lord!” and you won’t miss out.

## **Did you miss out in 2018?**

It is for this very reason that TheBibleTeam.com was created. The website has tools and tips to help the individual excel in this area. While the tools and tips are great, it will take a commitment from the disciple to “do the work”, which is to *sit still and read*, placing a higher value on it above all else each day.

<http://thebibleteam.com>

I know that for most, it is an ambitious goal to read through the Bible in a year, but it is so worth it. If it's too much, there is a month to month plan or you can customize your own reading plan using the Reading Plan Creator.

<http://thebibleteam.com/PlanMaker.asp>

We also host a conference call once a week that gives readers an opportunity to discuss what they've been reading. This time of fellowship is priceless and goes a long way to ensure the disciples' success with staying plugged in.

<http://thebibleteam.com/news.asp>

## **Will you sit still and read with me in 2019?**

*“Dear Lord, I am in awe of you. You constantly amaze me. When I read about what you like and dislike I learn more and more about you and how I can please you. I apologize for perhaps not taking you seriously enough in 2018. I commit to spending more time with you in 2019. Will you help me? I know that it will not be easy and that the devil will try even harder to distract me with things I might think is more important. Thank you, Lord, for the hope I have in the coming year. Please draw me near you and reveal yourself to me. In Jesus name, Amen.*

Photo by [Justin Veenema](#) on [Unsplash](#)