

Title: The Secret Place  
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Date: 20 July 2014  
Time: 09:00



Divided heart.

Luke 10:38–42 (NKJV) <sup>38</sup> Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named **Martha welcomed Him into her house.** <sup>39</sup> And she had a sister called Mary, who also **sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word.** <sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted with **much serving**, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me." <sup>41</sup> And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, **you are worried and troubled about many things.** <sup>42</sup> But **one thing is needed**, and Mary has **chosen** that good part, which will not be taken away from her."

**Contrasting two types of believers.** Those who live from the secret place & those who live from their own strength outside the secret place. Worried and troubled about many things.

**\*Martha welcomed Jesus into her house. That is a good place to start.**

**Martha was distracted.** Many believers find themselves in the same boat. Distracted.

*"Many will be shocked one day. Many will be deeply saddened when they realise they have wasted their lives. When they realise the lives they could have impacted, yet didn't."*

**\*What distracts you?**

Every moment is an opportunity to draw closer to God. Every moment.

<sup>41</sup> And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, **you are worried and troubled about many things.**

worry, *merimnao* (mer-im-nah-oh); Strong's #3309: From *merizo*, "to divide into **parts.**" The word suggests a **distraction**, a preoccupation with things causing anxiety, stress, and pressure.

- **\*\*Before you do for Me, first come to Me.**

**One thing is needed**

*Mary, who sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. The Secret Place.*

**Matthew 5:6** <sup>6</sup> But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, **pray to your Father who is in the secret place;** and your Father **who sees in secret** will reward you openly.

- **Where is God? God is found in the secret place!**
- **Our Greatest victories are won in the Secret Place. That which happens in the secret place determine the rewards we receive from heaven that EVERYONE sees.**

**Secret place: The Father who is in the Secret Place.** Who **speaks** in the secret place (psalm 81:7). Who **sees** / **hears** in the Secret place. A place of safety (Psalm 27:5) God is found in the secret place. (Psalm 91:1, Matthew 5:6)

<sup>42</sup> But **one thing is needed**, and Mary has **chosen** that good part, which will not be taken away from her."

For a powerfully effective life, this is needed. This One thing.

**"Most strategic thing you can do with your life – separate yourself to the secret place of prayer."** (Banning Liebscher from Jesus Culture).

In the secret place you get what you cannot get anywhere else. **From that place flows the glory of God.** That is where heaven meets earth.

## Choose

It is possible to stay at His feet. Continuously. Make a daily connection with Heaven and then stay there.

<sup>42</sup> *But **one thing is needed**, and Mary has **chosen** that good part, which will not be taken away from her."*

Every moment of the day is an opportunity to draw closer to God, or to step further away.

To say "yes" to God, you need to say "no" to a whole bunch of other things.

**"Stop selling your hearts."** *Vision the Lord showed me: People bowing before shrines. In the lounge kneeling before the TV. In the garage, worshipping car. On the lawn in front of house bowing down. In front of shops in the mall. Selling our hearts. Distracted. "Stop selling your hearts"*

**We are called to possess all things, but to be possessed by none, except the Most High God.**

*"The man who has God for his treasure has all things in One. Many ordinary treasures may be denied him, or if he is allowed to have them, the enjoyment of them will be so tempered that they will never be necessary for his happiness. Or if he must see them go, one after one, he will scarcely feel a sense of loss, for having **the Source of all things** he has **in One all satisfaction**, all pleasure, all delight. Whatever he may lose he has actually lost nothing, for **he now has it all in One**, and he has it purely, legitimately and forever." AW Tozer*

## The Call to Prayer

Luke 11:2-4 (NKJV) <sup>2</sup> So He said to them, "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. **Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.** <sup>3</sup> Give us day by day our daily bread. <sup>4</sup> And forgive us our sins, For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one."

- The success of God's work on earth is dependent on the prayers of the saints.

Psalms 86:11 (NKJV) <sup>11</sup> Teach me **Your way**, O LORD; I **will walk** in Your truth; **Unite my heart** to fear Your name.

Unite my heart = **give me singleness of heart!**

**Prayer:** *O God, I have tasted your goodness, and it has both satisfied me and made me thirsty for more. I am painfully conscious of my need of further grace. I am ashamed of my lack of desire. O God, the Triune God, I want to want you; I long to be filled with longing; I thirst to be made more thirsty still. Show me your glory, I pray, that so I may know you indeed. Begin in mercy a new work of love within me. Say to my soul, "Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away." Then give me grace to rise and follow you up from this misty lowland where I have wandered so long. In Jesus' Name, Amen. (The Pursuit of God – A.W. Tozer location 308, page 28)*