



Week One | Sunday, April 18, 2010

“A Welcoming Heart”

Luke 10:38-42

1. What does true hospitality look like? If you had the gift of “hospitality” what would be true about your life.
2. The question behind the Mary and Martha story is “what does it mean to be hospitable to Jesus?” Mary and Martha welcomed Jesus into their home. As followers of Jesus we believe that Jesus is present in our lives. What kind of hospitality does Jesus expect from us? What does Mary teach us about what it means to be hospitable to Jesus?
3. How is the picture of the disciple, sitting at Jesus feet and listening to his words, different from a 21st century picture of hospitality. Note that both Mary and Martha were practicing hospitality they just had different ways of expressing it.
4. How do we “sit at Jesus feet and listen to his words”? Share with one another how you attempt to practice this spiritual discipline in your life.
5. The priority of the disciple is relationship with Jesus but we can so easily become distracted from that. Nothing distracts us more than trying to live up to expectations. What are some of the expectations that you feel dominate your life, that you are trying to live up to? Do you find that this can keep you from “sitting and listening” to Jesus? How so?
6. Talk with each others about how you could help one another “free yourself from the opinions of others and our culture”, and “redefine ‘enough’ and ‘success’.
7. On a scale of 1-10 measure the degree to which you believe you have a “welcoming heart” to Jesus and the work he wants to do in your life? Why did you rate yourself the way you did?