

July 24, 2020

In our reading today, we hear of Mary and Martha. It is a very familiar story often presented with the question: Are you a Mary? or Are you a Martha?

Luke's Gospel leaves many unanswered questions. Did Mary eventually help Martha? Did Jesus enjoy the meal that Martha had prepared? Was Martha able to experience Jesus' teaching? We don't know.

We do know that Jesus invites all of us who are worried to sit and be refreshed in his presence, to hear his words of love and truth, to know that we are loved as children of God, to be renewed and strengthened for work Christ has given us to do.

Bishop Curry speaks about Mutual Blessing Through Presence in his podcast. He talks about striving for a self-less love in a world where this is no them only us.

We often create us and them not meaning to cause any offense but rather to understand our differences. Rather than understanding our differences, us versus them creates more of a separation.

So often when we go on mission trips, we envision ourselves consciously or unconsciously as the hero (us) there to save the day (for them). Upon returning from our trip, we are amazed because we were the ones that were transformed! It was our hosts who provided a place for us to experience the love, hope, and mercy found in God. Rather than trying to be a hero and save the world, we are more appropriately being called to be a host (much like Martha) for Christ. We are called by Christ Jesus to move from hero to host.

In all we do, we should ask ourselves, am I providing a safe place for someone to feel the presence of Christ?

Think of what that means to you – do I provide a safe place for someone else to feel the presence of Christ?