"The Good Portion" May 4, 2025

1. Intro

a. A few years back, I was in a Bible study with a guy who seemed like his mission in life was solely to combat the BUSYNESS that everyone around him was living in

- i. He would always ask, "How are you doing this week?"
 - 1. And if you made the mistake of answering something along the lines of, "Man, I'm doing good... just really BUSY with work, or BUSY with kids' activities, or BUSY doing stuff with the church..."
 - a. His guaranteed answer EVERY time was, "Well, you know what BUSY stands for, don't you? It stands for Being Under Satan's Yoke... B-U-S-Y."
 - i. Inevitably, you would walk away from those conversations feeling guilty for being so busy,
 - 1. And wondering how you could start cutting things out of your schedule so you wouldn't be under Satan's yoke anymore
 - 2. Now, I believe my friend MEANT well, but the more I read the Scriptures, the less I agree with him
 - a. The reality is... life IS busy
 - i. Unless you decide that you're just going to hole up in your house and not do anything anymore,
 - 1. There are always errands that need to get done...
 - 2. There are always kids to run around town, or grandkids to go visit...
 - 3. There are always responsibilities that we simply can't ignore
 - 3. And so, life in general is just plain busy!
- ii. We even saw this reality in Jesus' ministry awhile back, as we learned about the feeding of the five thousand back in Luke 9...
 - 1. Jesus had sent the Twelve out into the towns and villages to cast out demons and heal the sick and proclaim the Kingdom
 - a. But when they came back from their mission, John the Baptist's disciples were telling Jesus that John had just been beheaded by Herod
- iii. Knowing that his own disciples were likely weary from their mission, and that they might now be deeply saddened and discouraged by the news of John's death...
 - 1. Mark's Gospel tells us that Jesus took his disciples away in a boat to get some rest
 - a. But when the great crowds went to the shore where Jesus and the Twelve were going to rest,
 - i. Jesus instead had compassion on them
 - 1. He taught the crowds late into the day
 - 2. And then he fed them all a miraculous dinner from just a few loaves of bread and a couple of fish
 - b. After everyone was fed, Jesus put the Twelve BACK in a boat, where they fought against the storms throughout the night,
 - i. Until he came to them walking on the water, and everything was made calm
 - 2. But then when they get to the OTHER shore, John's Gospel tells us that the crowds ONCE AGAIN had realized where they were going...

- a. And they were back for MORE teaching and MORE signs
 - i. And Jesus would once again teach them throughout the day
- iv. Now, I don't know about you, but that all sounds EXHAUSTING!!
 - 1. But would we look at this series of events and say, "Man, that Jesus... he sure was under Satan's yoke with all that BUSYNESS!"?
 - a. Of course we wouldn't say that!
 - i. Jesus WAS busy
 - 1. But he was BUSY doing the work of the Father
 - 2. This was what he had told the disciples back in John 4, as John tells us that Jesus sat down at the well in Samaria because he was worn out from all their travels
 - a. But when the Samaritan woman showed up, Jesus didn't pretend to be napping, like many of us might do when we're tired and don't want to talk to anyone
 - i. Instead, he engaged the woman in a deep spiritual conversation
 - 1. The woman began to believe that this was truly the longawaited Messiah she was talking to,
 - a. And she ran off to tell the rest of the town to come out and see him
 - ii. When the disciples came back, they marveled that he was talking to this Samaritan woman, and they tried to get Jesus to eat some lunch
 - b. But his response to them was really pretty astounding...
 - i. John 4:32 and 34 says,
 - 1. ³²"I have food to eat that you do not know about... ³⁴My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work."
 - 3. Jesus, in the midst of his weariness, in the midst of his BUSYNESS, found strength and nourishment...
 - a. Not by chilling out and getting some alone time
 - b. But by DIGGING IN, and by continuing to do the work of his Father
 - i. Far from being under Satan's yoke in all of his busyness, Jesus MADE THE MOST of his busyness
 - 1. And MANY Samaritans ended up believing in him
 - 2. And his Father was greatly glorified
- v. I say all of this because, I'm afraid that when a lot of us have read our passage for today, we've come away from it with similar thoughts as my friend from the Bible study...
 - 1. We get the idea that Jesus is rebuking and chastising Martha for being too BUSY
 - a. And therefore, we ourselves need to stop being so busy
 - i. Because when we're busy, we are under the yoke under the guidance and direction of Satan himself
 - 2. Instead of taking that approach, which tends to lead to shame and guilt and unrealistic expectations...
 - a. My prayer is that we would come away from this passage learning how to REDEEM our busyness, rather than AVOID our busyness
 - i. So let's look now at Luke 10, verse 38

2. Luke 10:38-42

a. ³⁸Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. ³⁹And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord

answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, ⁴²but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."

- b. Well, let's take some time and get to know these two sisters
 - i. In John, chapter 11, we learn that Mary and Martha are the sisters of Lazarus, who Jesus will later raise from the dead
 - 1. We learn from John that these siblings live in the town of Bethany, which was about two miles outside of Jerusalem
 - ii. And when we look at Luke's Gospel and John's Gospel, we can put the details together and paint a snapshot of these two sister's personalities
 - 1. From the evidence that we have in the Scriptures, it seems to be that Martha was the more PRACTICAL sister, while Mary was the more GENTLE, and EMPATHETIC sister
 - a. Martha was the DOER... but Mary was the FEELER
 - 2. Here in Luke, Martha was the one bustling around getting the house all in order and the food all served while Jesus was teaching,
 - a. But Mary was sitting at Jesus' feet listening to him
 - 3. In John 11, after Lazarus died and Jesus finally made his way to Bethany, it was Martha who went out to meet Jesus, saying to him very matter-of-factly, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you."
 - a. But Mary stayed back at the house, weeping in sorrow
 - 4. And as Jesus prepared to raise Lazarus back to life, it was Martha who rather bluntly reminded Jesus that her brother had been dead for four days, and so the tomb would smell awful if they rolled away the stone
 - a. While Mary came and fell at Jesus' feet, continuing to weep in mourning
 - i. Martha seems to be the PRACTICAL sister, while Mary seems to be the EMOTIONAL sister
 - b. We see this again in John chapter 12, as Jesus returns to Bethany six days before his final Passover meal, and he stops to have dinner with Martha and Mary and Lazarus
 - i. Again, in verse 2, we find Martha serving
 - 1. But it is Mary who takes a pound of expensive oil, and she anoints Jesus' feet, and wipes his feet with her hair...
 - a. Symbolically preparing him for his burial that would happen in just a few days
 - c. By nature, Martha seems to be the doer
 - d. By nature, Mary seems to be the feeler
 - iii. I believe it is important for us to recognize these personality differences in these two sisters
 - 1. Because, again, we might come away from our passage here in Luke believing that Jesus is rebuking Martha for her busyness and practicality, when really that is just how God the Father had wired her
 - a. We need to pay close attention to the words that both Luke and Jesus use in this passage, so we can understand what is really going on here
- c. So first, in verse 40, Luke writes that Martha was DISTRACTED with much serving
 - i. In the King James version, it reads that Martha was "cumbered" about much serving
 - 1. Cumbered isn't a word we use much anymore, but it can be defined as something that is burdensome, or something that weighs you down
 - a. Earlier this year, in our Wednesday night study, we went through the book Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan

- i. If you remember, before the main character, Christian, found freedom at the cross of Christ, he had to carry around this great burden on his back
 - 1. This was a huge weight that he was unable to free himself from
 - a. And therefore, he was greatly cumbered by his burden
 - In Christian's case, this great burden was the weight of his own sinfulness, as he had come under a deep and weighty conviction
- ii. But we don't exactly know what Martha's burden was
 - 1. We could make any number of speculations here...
 - a. Maybe her brother Lazarus, who would die later on in John's Gospel, was beginning to be in poor health at this point in the story
 - i. And maybe she was burdened by his increasing illness
 - b. Maybe Martha's concern was a wider concern, as we remember that the Jewish people were under harsh oppression from Rome and from their evil Tetrarch, Herod
 - i. And maybe she was burdened by the conditions of her nation and her people
 - c. Maybe, bringing it closer to home, Martha was a lot like us
 - i. And as she found herself entertaining a really important person, and most likely many of his disciples as well, she began to get flustered that her house wasn't as nice as it should be...
 - 1. And the food wasn't as lavish as it ought to have been
 - a. Maybe her burden was a self-inflicted burden of embarrassment
- iii. Whatever it was that was going on in Mary's heart, she was carrying some sort of heavy burden
 - 1. She was distracted in all of her serving, as her heart was being pulled in multiple directions
 - a. And so, you can almost hear the frustration in her voice, as she comes to Jesus and says,
 - i. "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me!"
 - b. Like we ourselves so often do when we become burdened by the cares of this world, Martha tried to find SOMEONE ELSE to lash out against
 - c. Like we ourselves so often do when we become overwhelmed and stressed and cumbered, Martha had the audacity to start DEMANDING that Jesus do something about her circumstances
- iv. And Jesus, knowing the deepest recesses of her heart, says to her,
 - "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."
- d. Friends, the issue is NOT Martha's busyness
 - i. The issue is that, in her heart, she had become distracted and burdened by many things
 - 1. And because of her burdens, Martha was anxious... and Martha was troubled
- e. This word that Jesus uses for Martha's anxiety speaks to a condition that many of us would be familiar with
 - i. It is defined as being OVER-anxious about something

- 1. It could mean being over-anxious about the necessities of life
- 2. It could mean being over-anxious about future uncertainties
 - a. But whatever the focus of this anxiety is, it ultimately leads to FEAR
 - And throughout the New Testament, this fear-driven anxiety is characterized as a WORLDLY anxiety that stands in direct contrast to the peace that comes from faith in God
- ii. Jesus uses this same word in the Sermon on the Mount, as he says three times in Matthew 6:25-34, "Do not be anxious..."
 - 1. First, in verses 25-26, Jesus says...
 - a. ²⁵"Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"
 - i. Christian, are you fearful and anxious and burdened when you look at your bank account, and you wonder how you're going to buy groceries next week, or what kinds of clothes your kids will have to wear?
 - Jesus would say to you, "Look at the birds of the air. They
 don't sow seeds in the ground and then wait for the harvest.
 They don't store up the harvest into barns so they'll have a
 nice big retirement...
 - a. And yet God YOUR Father gives them everything they need
 - b. And are you not of more value than they?
 - i. I love the rhetorical question that Jesus throws in next, as he asks the people, "Which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?"
 - 2. You have to wonder if Jesus might have asked a similar question of Martha back in her home...
 - a. "Martha, is all of this anxiety and fear doing you ANY good right now? Is it adding ANYTHING to your day? Is it doing ANYTHING to comfort your heart?"
 - 2. Jesus goes on in Matthew 6:28-30, as he says,
 - a. ²⁸"And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?"
 - i. Just let those words sink in for a moment...
 - 1. The days of King Solomon were unparalleled in the entire history of the Jewish people
 - a. The Scriptures tell us that in those days, gold was being shipped in from every direction, and silver was in such abundance that they couldn't even keep track of how much they had
 - 2. And Jesus tells us here in these verses what God thinks of gold and silver...

- a. Even Solomon, in all of his glory, was not arrayed as beautifully as one lily out in a field
- ii. Just on a side note... if God wasn't impressed by the abundance of Solomon's luxurious clothing, do you think He cares if we have Nike shoes? Or designer jeans? Or the latest purses from Prada or Louis Vitton?
 - 1. No friends, go outside and look at what we would call the weeds out in the fields
 - a. THAT is what God would say is BEAUTIFUL
- b. And Jesus would say to us, "If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, will He not MUCH MORE clothe you, O you of little faith?"
- 3. So again, Jesus says for the second time,
 - a. ³¹"Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³²For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."
 - i. We don't know what Martha was so anxious about while Jesus was there
 - 1. But it is clear from the outward evidence...
 - a. Her heart WAS NOT seeking first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness
 - b. And therefore, her heart was consumed with worry, and even fear
 - i. Maybe it was an anxiety about God's immediate provision
 - ii. Maybe it was an anxiety about future uncertainties
- 4. But Jesus speaks even to that in Matthew 6, as he says for the third time in verse 34,
 - a. ³⁴'Therefore, do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.'
 - i. Friends, busyness is just a simple reality of the world in which we live
 - 1. But what we need to examine in the midst of our busyness is, HOW IS OUR HEART?
 - a. Are you weighed down with worry and anxiety over the state of your bank account?
 - b. As you turn on the news and hear about tariffs and trade wars and recessions, are you consumed with fear about tomorrow?
 - 2. What is going on in your head and in your heart as you go about the busyness of your day?
 - a. Worry? Anxiety? Stress? Fear?
 - If so, then this is a good indicator that you have taken your eyes off of the Kingdom of God, and you have become anxious about MANY things...
 - ii. But only ONE thing is necessary
- f. Well, not only was Martha anxious in this moment... Jesus also said that she was TROUBLED by many things
 - i. In the original Greek, this is actually a highly descriptive word

- We might think of the word, "troubled," and we get this picture in our head of a person nervously muttering to themselves, maybe biting their nails or twisting their hair
 - a. But in Jesus' days, this word for "troubled" meant that this person would be GREATLY disturbed
 - i. It meant that they were so agitated in their mind that they were almost moved into a state of panic
 - 1. In some situations, this agitation could even lead to an uproar that wells up from deep inside
 - b. In Matthew 9:23, when Jesus goes to Jairus' house to raise his daughter from the dead, Matthew tells us that there was a crowd of people inside Jairus' house
 - It is believed that many of these people were actually professional mourners, who would come to a place where someone had died in order to heighten the emotional temperature of the room
 - 1. They would have flute players playing mournful dirges
 - 2. The women would be weeping and wailing, loudly and dramatically
 - ii. And Matthew says that these mourners were making such a commotion, that Jesus sent them out of the house
 - 1. This word he used for MAKING A COMMOTION, was the same word that Jesus used for Martha in our passage
- 2. Now, I'm sure none of us could be found guilty of this, but just think about what you see in movies and TV shows
 - a. Typically, it is the wife who is mad at her husband, or maybe she's irritated with her kids
 - i. And so she goes into the kitchen and starts doing the dishes
 - 1. But she doesn't do them quietly, does she?
 - a. No! She makes sure EVERY pot or pan is put into the dishwasher with enough force that everyone in the house hears it
 - b. She makes sure to throw every utensil into the rack so hard you think surely something just broke
 - c. And she slams every cabinet door so loudly that you wonder if they're even still on the hinges
 - i. Like I said, surely none of us can relate, can we?
 - b. But this is where Martha was in this moment
 - i. She wasn't just distracted in her serving...
 - ii. She wasn't just internally consumed with anxiety and fear...
 - iii. She was OUTWARDLY agitated and troubled...
 - 1. So much so that she was likely causing quite a commotion
- 3. This was the same word used again by Luke in Acts 17, as Paul and Silas were in Thessalonica at the house of Jason, and the Jews became jealous of all the people that were turning to Christ because of their words
 - a. Verse 5 of Acts 17 says,
 - i. 5... they formed a mob, set the city IN AN UPROAR, and attacked the house of Jason, seeking to bring them out to the crowd.

- 1. You see, when we become burdened and encumbered by worry and anxiety, our natural inclination is to want to bring others into our state of distress
 - a. In the case of the jealous Jews in Thessalonica, they formed a mob because they were so troubled about Paul and Silas
 - b. In the case of Martha, she ordered Jesus to make her sister Mary to join her in her agitation
- b. Isn't that what we're doing, when we go through the house slamming doors and making a commotion with all the pots and pans?
- c. Isn't that what we're doing, when we get on social media and voice all our anger and frustration about our current circumstances?
- d. Isn't that what we're doing, when we loudly go to God in prayer, demanding for Him to do what WE want Him to do?
 - i. Friends, in your worry and fear and anxiety, have you become so troubled in your heart that your agitation has turned into an uproar?
 - 1. If so, then this is a good indicator that you have taken your eyes off of the Kingdom of God, and you have become troubled about MANY things...
 - a. But only ONE thing is necessary
- g. Jesus didn't rebuke Martha for her busyness and her serving
 - Remember, as I mentioned earlier, when Jesus returns to Martha's house later on in John
 Martha is AGAIN serving
 - 1. And she gets no rebuke... no correction
 - 2. She's a doer... she makes things happen... there is no sin in that
 - ii. Jesus rebukes Martha here in Luke 10 because, for whatever reason, she was greatly burdened and fearful and troubled
 - 1. She had lost sight of the one thing that was necessary
 - a. And this one thing was that Jesus was HERE, in her house, but EVEN MORE IMPORTANT... Jesus was trying to TEACH them something
 - i. Look back at verse 39
 - 1. Mary wasn't just sitting at Jesus' feet in passive adoration
 - 2. Mary was sitting at his feet, ACTIVELY LISTENING to what Jesus was teaching
 - a. According to Jesus, Mary had chosen the GOOD portion
 - b. And despite Martha's agitated command, Jesus firmly says to her, "No, Martha, Mary has chosen what is good, and I will not take it away from her."
- h. Brothers and sisters, our takeaway from this morning's passage is not a complex or deeply theological concept
 - i. But rather it is this... in the midst of our busy lives, are we listening to the anxiety and the troubles that this world is trying to thrust upon us...
 - 1. Or are we listening to the teachings of Jesus?
 - a. Just think back to the three possible scenarios I mentioned at the beginning of the sermon
- i. Maybe Martha was burdened by the fact that her brother, Lazarus, might have already been getting sick
 - i. Maybe they were realizing that his death might be coming... and it might be coming soon

- 1. The worldly response in the face of sickness, and possible death, is one of anxiety and stress and fear, isn't it?
 - a. At one of our previous churches, the church was asked to host a funeral service for someone in the community who clearly was not a believer
 - I wasn't able to go to the funeral, but afterwards our pastor was sharing about the complete despair and hopelessness of the man's family members
 - 1. The man hadn't been a Christian, and neither was anyone in his family
 - 2. So the only response they had available to them was one of deep anguish, and even anger
 - a. Like the mourners in Jairus' home, many of this man's family members were loudly wailing during the service
 - b. Only their wailing wasn't a fabricated commotion
 - It was the commotion of a world that has no hope of eternal life
- ii. But this isn't what the Scriptures teach us about sickness and death, is it?
 - 1. The Bible doesn't hold back on the fact that, from the moment we are born, our bodies are dying
 - a. James 4:14 says that we are "a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes"
 - b. 1 Peter 1:24 says that "all flesh is like grass, and all our glory is like the flower of grass... and the grass withers... and the flower falls"
 - c. 2 Corinthians 4:7 and 17 reminds us that our bodies are just "jars of clay," and that "our outer self is wasting away"
 - d. 2 Corinthians 5:1 tells us that our flesh is just an earthly tent that will eventually be destroyed
 - 2. The Bible doesn't hold back on these things because the Bible teaches that our hope doesn't reside in THIS life it resides in the life to come
 - a. We certainly grieve when we are faced with sickness and death whether it is for our loved ones or for ourselves
 - i. But as Paul says in 1 Thessalonians 4:13, we "do not grieve as others who have no hope"
 - 1. Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, we ALSO believe that everyone IN HIM will be raised as well
 - ii. These earthly tents that we live in WILL be destroyed, but when we leave behind these earthly tents, we will be going home to be with the Lord
- iii. So, Christians, don't be anxious about tomorrow
 - 1. Let not your hearts be troubled, no matter what the Dr.'s report says
 - a. Listen to the teachings of Jesus, as he said to Martha in John 11:25-26
 - i. ²⁵"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die."
- i. But maybe it wasn't the sickness of Lazarus that had Martha so agitated on this day
 - i. Maybe she looked around her in despair, as she saw the cruel Roman soldiers in her town that reminded her of the oppression of her people
 - ii. Maybe she saw Herod the Tetrarch in Jerusalem, in all his greed and corruption, and she was dismayed by the condition of her country

- 1. The world would say that Martha should live her life in fear and anxiety because of the state of her nation
 - a. And things haven't changed much today, have they?
 - Since the most recent election, CNN and ABC and MSNBC have all been telling us that we ought to be deeply troubled and agitated by all that is happening in Washington DC
 - ii. But wasn't Fox telling us the very same things the four years before that?
 - b. We live in a society that thrives off of anxiety
 - i. The more you can stir up fear and worry in people's hearts, the more activity you can drum up for your side, whichever your side is
 - 1. What we see today, regardless of the political party, really isn't all that different from the mobs in Thessalonica
 - Gather together enough voices that are loud enough and powerful enough, and a troubled commotion will surely ensue
- 2. But this isn't what the Scriptures teach, is it?
 - a. Romans 13:1 says, "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God."
 - b. 1 Timothy 2:2 says that we are to pray and be thankful for "kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way."
 - i. Jesus himself teaches us that there will be wars and rumors of wars
 - Nation will rise up against nation, and kingdom against kingdom
 - a. The followers of Christ will be delivered up to tribulation
 - i. Many Christians will be killed
 - ii. All Christians will be hated
 - ii. And yet Jesus says in Matthew 24:6, "See that you are not alarmed, for all of these things MUST take place"
 - 1. Friends, I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but the lawlessness of our country IS going to increase
 - 2. The corruption in our nations leaders IS going to get worse
 - 3. The book of Revelation is clear... in the end, EVERY nation will reject Christ and turn and worship the Beast
 - a. But Jesus teaches us, "See that you are not alarmed"
 - b. This is all according to my Father's plan
 - c. And it is all moving toward the final consummation of HIS Kingdom upon the earth
 - i. So let not your hearts be troubled!
- k. Maybe, for Martha, her agitation and anxiety wasn't rooted in any of these things... but instead she was simply embarrassed that her house wasn't as nice as it could have been, and her food wasn't as luxurious as it should have been
 - Maybe in modern-day terminology, the President just showed up at Martha's house, and she was immediately faced with the reality of how inferior she was financially, socially, and positionally

- 1. Brothers and sisters in Christ, I wonder if this might be the source of so much of OUR stress and anxiety and agitation in the midst of all of our busyness?
 - a. Have we gotten caught up in the elusive pursuit of the American Dream?
 - i. Are we in a state of constant discontent because our house isn't as nice as we'd like...
 - ii. Our clothes don't have the designer tags...
 - iii. Our cars don't have the right name...
 - iv. Our vacations aren't as fancy...
 - b. Are we relentlessly spinning our wheels, allowing our hearts to become troubled, because we just don't have all the shiny stuff that our neighbor has?
- ii. My friends, if that is where you find yourself, then return to the teachings of Jesus in Matthew chapter 6
 - 1. Seek first the Kingdom
 - 2. Seek first the righteousness of God
 - a. You have a GOOD Father, who delights in giving His children GOOD gifts
 - i. He has promised in His Word that He will give you absolutely EVERYTHING you need in this life
 - ii. And even better, He has promised in His Word that, for all who love Him, you will receive more than you could ever imagine in the life that is to come!
- iii. What is the one thing that is necessary in the midst of our busyness?
 - 1. Take time to listen to the teachings of Jesus
 - 2. Take time to read the Word of God
 - a. Like the people of ancient Israel in Deuteronomy 6,
 - i. Teach these things diligently to your children
 - ii. Talk about them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise
 - iii. Bind these words upon your hearts and your minds
 - 3. Life will always be busy friends, but in the midst of the busyness, make sure your heart is centered upon the teachings of Christ!
 - a. Focus on this ONE thing, Christians, and it will never be taken from you!