



Upend Your Urgency

“Her sister, Mary, sat at the Lord’s feet, listening to what he taught. But Martha was distracted by the big dinner she was preparing.”

Luke 10:39-40(NLT)

Hands down, the top issue I’ve observed as a coach is people’s struggle with urgency. Inevitably, we do what we believe is urgent at any given time. A friend likes to say, “We’re always at a fork in the road” as we face decision after decision throughout our days.

Unfortunately, important long-term priorities almost never become urgent. A year down the road these priorities lay in the corner collecting dust. Upon reflection, guilt is exposed... “Ugh! I know I should be spending more time with God (or with my family, or taking care of my health...), but I’ve had too many other things on my plate.” Extend this over a lifetime and realize a life of regret.

We rationalize our urgency by elevating the importance of lesser things. Can you imagine Martha’s thoughts? “Jesus is here! I know he’s been on the road a long time and probably hasn’t had a hot meal

for days. I'll make him a big dinner!"

"My dear Martha, you are worried and upset over all these details! There is only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her." Jesus Christ (Luke 10:41-42)

Though Martha's plans are good, Jesus rebukes her for elevating the importance of worldly over spiritual things. He minces no words...
"Kingdom priorities are more urgent."

Reflect: What have I allowed to rise above Kingdom priorities?

A best practice is to take command of your calendar. With a blast of willpower, make long term priorities urgent by adjusting your calendar to reflect them. Reserving a spot on your schedule for your daily devotional is good! For most, a month later this time has been overtaken by other things... a discipline issue? Perhaps, but more likely a belief issue.

Consider: I do not do what I do not believe.

Scheduling your priorities is a powerful discipline, but alone, not enough to transform. Your actions and behaviors, not what you say, are the evidence of what you believe. When your long-term priorities gather dust, it's because you haven't accepted that they truly are important. Subconsciously you may think, "I know a devotional time with God is a good thing, but I need to eat first." Before you know it, your devotional time is nil.

I'm reminded of when Esau opted for some red stew in exchange for his birthright with huge long-term consequences. Belief is proven when tested. I'm sure Jesus was hungry, but apparently, he believed

eating was of lesser urgency than Martha spending time listening to his teaching.

Imagine: The spiritual realm ruling over my worldly priorities.

What is the “one thing worth being concerned about” that Jesus spoke of? Certainly, his message to Martha was, “relational time with me is urgent, more important even than food!” Why do we struggle to accept this teaching of Jesus? Now I’m reminded of when he taught us to pray, “...Give us today our daily bread.” Vital!

“My Father has entrusted everything to me. No one truly knows the Son except the Father, and no one truly knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.” Jesus Christ (John 10:22)

What could Jesus have been teaching to Mary? We can only speculate, but perhaps he was sharing secrets about the Father. Could it be that knowing the Father better could lead you to believe that the spiritual realm reigns over your worldly? Envision the long-term consequences of this! Decide and believe...

Upend Your Urgency!

Go off the grid and ask these questions:

Coach’s Questions

- What do my actions tell me about what I believe about Kingdom priorities?
- How will I elevate my belief in the spiritual realm such that I generate Kingdom urgency?

- How will I structure my calendar to reflect these long-term priorities?

Spirit Talk

Post this where you will see it regularly.

Believe Kingdom Priorities are Urgent.

"We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us. The night is coming, and then no one can work" Jesus Christ | John 9:4 (NLT)



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