

Open Hands: Stewarding with Kingdom Vision
Prioritizing the Eternal: The Tyranny of the Urgent, Part II

I want to apply the story of Martha and Mary to this message about the homeless and what always goes through the minds of homeless men and women at homeless shelters. I am preaching about this in the second part of this message to share with you about my experience at homeless shelters and spending time in and out of homeless shelters in the past. I was surrounded with homeless men at homeless shelters in the past in Atlanta, Chicago, Philadelphia, Houston and Baltimore with anger and mental health problems.

I understand that homeless men and women are struggling to find out where their next meal will come from. I understand that homeless men and women are struggling to find resources and asking for money from working people on a daily basis for food and/or ride public transportation. I understand homeless shelters have limited resources for homeless men and women daily that cause those people to become depressed, oppressed, and have anger issues. I know how homeless men and women struggle daily for survival. That's why when I have the money to give on me that I give to the homeless to be a cheerful giver and do God's work to care and help the poor. I understand that homeless men and women are fighting for survival trying to find their next place to sleep because homeless shelters fill up fast. The tyranny that homeless men and women deal with on a daily basis is not just a lack of resources. Homeless men and women are dealing with mental exhaustion and despair. The homelessness crisis in this nation causes exhaustion and despair because homeless men and women can easily get distracted and obtain anxiety. Homeless men and women want to live their life with some type of stability and spiritually. I look at the homeless crisis as an opportunity for homeless men and women to follow Mary's path to determine importance in their life and resist any urgency. There are some homeless shelters that do not have quiet hours for homeless men and women to pray and meditate to God each night. More homeless shelters need a quiet hour to allow homeless men and women to pray and talk to God. It is the only way homeless men and women can live and take the Mary path. It is more homeless men and women at homeless shelters that are content to follow the path of Martha with stress, not the path of Mary that worships God's presence. If a homeless person does not have a quiet hour, I want to say to those homeless people, either find a homeless shelter wherever you are that have quiet hours and have motivational chapel services because homeless men and women need to be taught to follow Mary path. I want to say to homeless men and women at homeless shelters do not worry about other homeless people at the shelters trying to judge or hate on you for living Mary path. Homeless men and women dealing with homeless men and women to focus on your mind, breath, skills and your story as God-given tools. I encourage homeless men and women in this nation to choose vulnerability over isolation. I encourage all homeless men and women in this nation to find a church home to speak with a pastor, deacon or counselor by being transparent with them. Homeless men and women need to be honest to case workers, counselors and stories so they can pray, help and be a blessing to you. There needs to be more love at homeless shelters because I witnessed times when I was at homeless shelters that men only communicate with people that fall in line with them by loving the world and following Martha's path with stress.

Read and memorize Luke 12:24

Read and memorize Matthew 6:11

Tyranny is the lack of their possessions or failures. The isolation and shame of homelessness act as a barrier to receiving help. The urgent need to be tough and invisible will destroy you. Mary sat with others. Homeless men and women are fighting for survival, but don't let the urgent need to worry steal your eternal peace. Jesus gives you permission to stop worrying about the urgent for just a few moments

each day to look up. When you prioritize God, he gives you strength to face the urgent when you stand up. I agree with this person in this video:

Heavenly Father,

We confess that we often become slaves to the tyranny of the urgency of the urgent. We are anxious, distracted and worried by the demands of the world. We ask you for wisdom and discipline of Mary. Help us to sit at your feet, prioritize your voice, and commit to the few things that matter for eternity. Give us the courage to say no to the distracting noise so we can say yes to your will. In Jesus name, Amen.