



Bethany

Bible Olympics
Devotion Three



Bethany

Devotion Three Overview

Color of the Day - Red (wear this color today)

Family Devotion - At the Home of Martha and Mary
(Luke 10:38-42)

Bible Memory Verse - Luke 10:42b

Bible Story Flag - Design a flag based on the Bible story

Bible Olympics Game - Table Setting Race

Bible Olympics Craft - Olympic Torch

Bible Olympics Family Activity - Baking for Others

Bible Olympics Rings - Creating Olympic Rings that link you to God



Family Devotion

Luke 10:38-42

The city of Bethany was the site for several important events in the Bible. But I think we all might know it as the hometown of one family that held a special place in the heart of Jesus.

Martha, Mary, and Lazarus were siblings who were very dear friends of Jesus. The Bible tells us on several occasions that Jesus would visit the village of Bethany (located a couple of miles southeast of Jerusalem), and would visit His friends Martha, Mary, and Lazarus.

In our Bible story today, we find Jesus at the home of Martha and Mary. He and the disciples have come to Bethany and stopped at their home because Martha opened up their home to them. I think from reading this verse in the Bible (v. 38), we can safely assume that Martha likes to entertain guests in her home.

So what do you do when you entertain guests at your home or open up your home for friends to come over? Well, your parents are probably busy cleaning (I always make sure to clean all the bathrooms). Your parents also probably ask you to make sure your room is clean and your bed is made.

If they are eating a meal with you, then your parents are probably in the kitchen busily preparing food for everyone to eat. Your mom might whip together a batch of cookies. Your dad might fire up the grill to cook hamburgers. And they also might be busy preparing other items to eat.

That's what Martha was doing. She opened up her home to Jesus and had to make sure it was perfect and ready for Jesus to come. I believe she probably thoroughly cleaned her home. And was probably busy in the kitchen preparing the meal to eat. She's also the only one doing any work. Her sister, Mary, is in the other room listening to Jesus teach. Martha complains to Jesus because she feels like Mary should be helping her. But Jesus quickly tells Martha not to be distracted by so many things. He says that Mary is doing what she needs to be doing.

What Jesus wants Martha to know and what He wants us to know is not to get so caught up in doing things that we forget to be with Him. Martha was busy making meals for Jesus that she forgot to actually spend time with Jesus. We can do the same thing too. We can get busy doing things that we forget to spend time with Jesus.

So your challenge this week is to make sure to spend time with Jesus every day. Open your Bible to read a story or a few verses. Pray and talk with God. Sing songs of praise to Him. Just spend time with Him...much like Mary did.

Almighty God, thank You for the story of Martha and Mary. Help me to focus on You and not get so busy doing things that I forget to be with You. I love You, Lord. Amen.



Bible Memory Verse

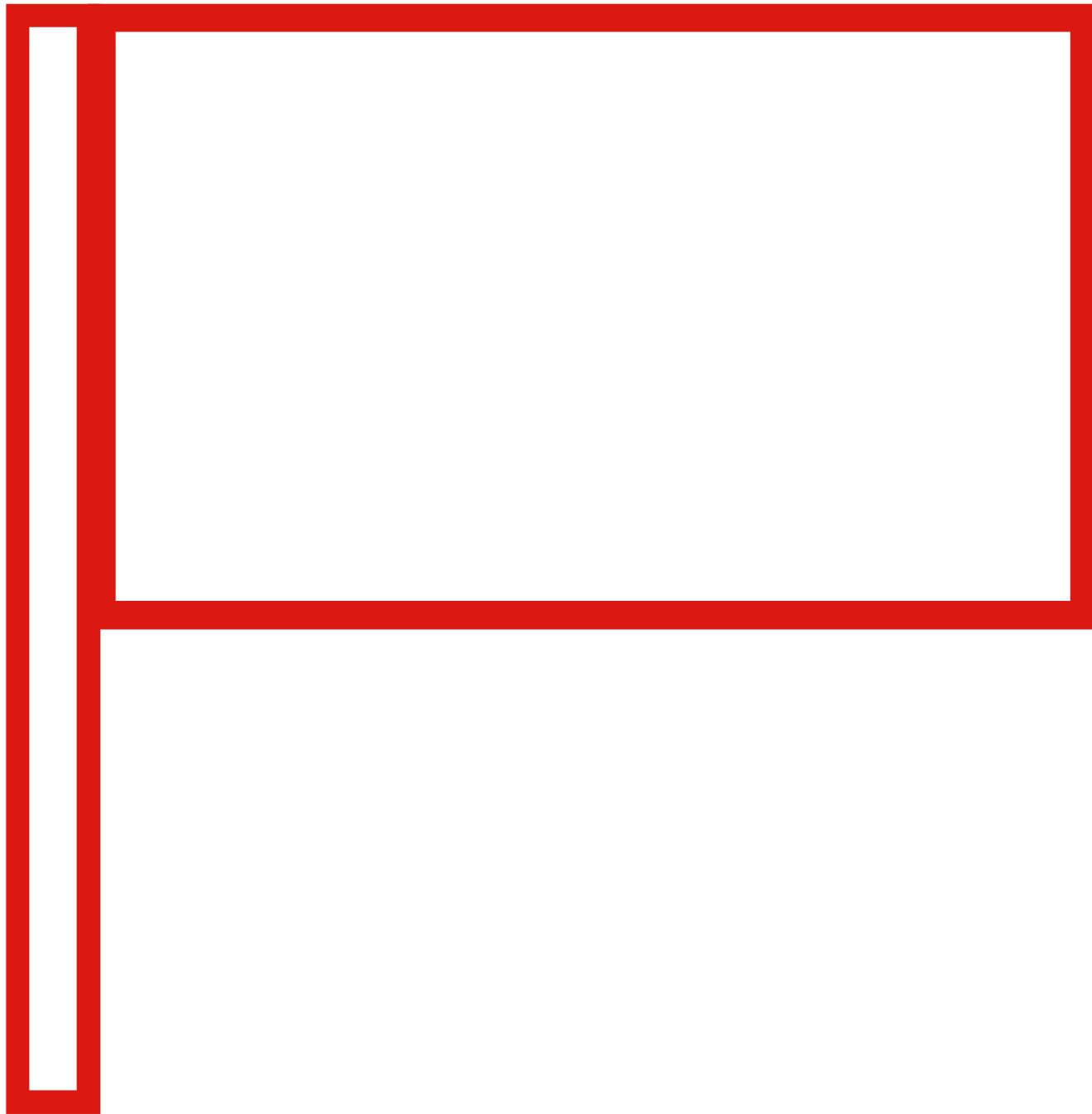
**"Mary has chosen
what is better,
and it will not be
taken away from
her."**

Luke 10:42b



Bible Story Flag

Using the template below (or creating your own), design a flag for the city of Bethany based on Jesus' visit to the home of Martha and Mary.





Bible Olympics Game

Table Setting Race

Supplies Needed: plates, forks, spoons, knives, napkins, cups, placemats

Martha loved to open up her home and cook for other people. She spent a lot of time in the kitchen cooking. But I am sure she also spent time setting the table and making sure all was ready for when it was time to sit down and eat.

For this game, you will set the table with everything needed: placemat, plate, napkin, fork, spoon, knife, cup. You will race against your other family members to see who can set the table the fastest.

If children don't know how to set a table, go over that with them first, then start the race. This is a fun race, but also a great exercise to help them learn how to set the table!

After you finish the race, discuss these questions:

- What was the hardest part about this race?
- Do you think Martha could set the table fast?
- Why do you think Martha did so many things to get ready for the visit with Jesus?



Bible Olympics Craft

Olympic Torch

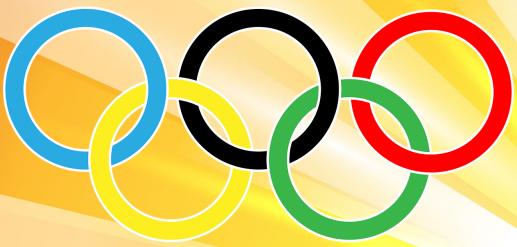
Supplies Needed: empty paper towel roll (or empty toilet paper roll), cupcake liner, orange and yellow tissue paper, tea light, gold acrylic paint (or color of your choice), paintbrush, glue (may need hot glue gun)

First, paint the paper towel roll with gold acrylic paint (or any color of your choice or you can leave unpainted if you like). Allow it to dry.

Next, glue the cupcake liner to one end of the empty paper towel roll. If you find that your glue is not sticking well, you may need to use a hot glue gun (parents use this only as it will burn kids).

Glue yellow tissue paper first to tea light. Line tissue paper up with bottom of tea light. Then glue the orange tissue paper on top of the yellow tissue paper. If tissue paper is too tall, cut off to the desired height you want.

Next, place tea light into top of cupcake liner that is glued to the base of the torch. You can choose to do one of two things here: place tea light into cupcake liner which makes it easy to turn the tea light on or off. Or you can place a little piece of tape to underside of tea light and stick to cupcake liner. This will help keep tea light in place and will also be easier to turn tea light on and off. When you want to do this, make sure to keep the tape attached to cupcake liner and gently remove the tea light from the tape so it will not cause the cupcake liner to tear.



Bible Olympics Family Activity

Baking for Others

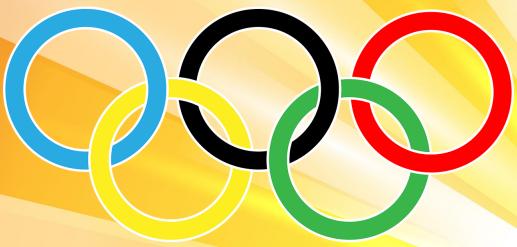
Supplies Needed: dessert recipe of your choice

Martha loved to cook and share with others. Let's put on our Martha hats today and bake for someone else!

Find your favorite dessert recipe and make it. Deliver it to a friend or family member. Include a note for them. You can attach the tag on the following page to the dessert to let them know this dessert was baked with the love of Jesus.



Baked
with the
love of
Jesus



Bible Olympics Rings

Bible Olympics Rings is an activity you will do everyday that will help you stay connected to God.

Supplies Needed: blue, black, red, yellow, and green construction paper strips, stapler, marker or crayon

You will be creating Olympic rings (or chain links) each day. For every person in your family, give them one color of each strip (blue, black, red, yellow, green). Every person should have 5 strips each day.

Write the following on the 5 strips of paper:

1. A prayer to Jesus
2. The Bible Memory Verse for today
3. The name of one person you need to share Jesus with
4. A praise song you love
5. Something you are grateful for

Once all family members are finished, staple the rings together to make one long chain link. If you want to keep in line with the color of the rings, you can staple the rings in the order of their color: blue, black, red, yellow, green. You will add to this Olympics Rings link every day.