The One Thing Needed
Luke 10:38-42

Introduction:
A. Hired immigrant told to grease the wagon – greased everything but the hub.
B. Martha’s fault was not what she did – lost light the one thing needed
C. We must not lose sight of the “one thing needed” in all of life’s activities.

Discussion:

I. In Our Vocations.
A. It is not: Money, security, happiness, nor “moving up”.
   1. Yet, each of these is important.
   2. Must work and provide things (Eph. 4:28; 1 Tim. 5:8; 2 Thess. 3:10).
B. It is: Conditions that will allow us to be strong Christians daily.

II. In Our Schedules.
A. It is not many good things that fill our time.
   1. Times and place many good things (Eccl. 3:1-8).
   2. There is a time to:
      a. Work (Eph. 4:28)
      b. Socialize (Lk. 10:38-42; John 2:1-11)
      c. Vacation (Mk. 6:31).
B. It is scheduling activities around Lord’s work, not vice versa. (Cf. Pres. Garfield).

III. In Our Budgets.
A. It is not: Food, clothing, shelter, transportation, recreation – all good and needed.
B. It is planning spending around Lord’s work, not vice versa.
   1. Old Testament required first fruits to Lord.
   2. Must give as have prospered (1 Cor. 16:1-2).
   3. Lay up treasure in heaven (Mt. 6:19-21; 1 Tim. 6:18-19).
   4. Illustration: Little girl’s nickels.

IV. In Our Education.
A. It is not secular education – though very important.
B. It is spiritual education (Acts 17:11; 2 Tim. 3:7; 2 Tim. 2:15).
   1. Not human wisdom above God’s wisdom.
   2. Not school work above Bible study work.

V. In Our Community.
A. It is not how much community service and civic projects we can manage.
B. It is how much we “shine as lights in the world.” (Phil. 2:15).
   1. Watch compromising entanglements in lodges, clubs, etc.
   2. Watch letting civic work overshadow church work.

VI. In Our Appearance.
A. It is not style, comfort, beauty – none necessarily bad.
B. It is appearing as one professing godliness (1 Tim. 2:9;10; 1 Pet. 3:3,4).
   1. Appearance can reflect attitudes: Materialism, laziness, sensuality, pride – or godliness.
   2. Appearance should be governed both by what Bible teaches and general perceptions.

VII. In Our Marriages.
A. It not good looks, good provider or good housekeeper – though needed.
B. It is: will he or she make it easier or harder to family to go to heaven.

VIII. In Our Worship.
A. It not the place – physical atmosphere (John 4:20, 21)
B. It is worshiping in spirit and in truth (John 4:24).

Conclusion:
A. Are we greasing everything but the hub?
B. Are we majoring in minors?