

(1) Genesis 18: Hospitality was important in OT Culture.

- We see Abraham's hospitality to the 3 strangers.
- Andrei Rublev Icon (The Trinity) gives a deeper meaning to Gen 18.



- Icon (picture) of the three strangers (seated around table).
- On the Table/Altar is a Cup/Chalice with a sacrifice (calf head/Lamb).
- There is an empty space for us to enter into communion w/ Trinity.
- Abraham's "Hastened" to the tent / "Quickly" / "Ran".
- **A Deeper meaning is how Abraham receives God.**
- **Abraham takes the time to be with God. To converse with God.**
- Gift of his hospitality: Sara once barren will receive a son (Grace).

In Luke: (LK – uses women in supportive roles to Jesus).

- Luke's theme is also hospitality but goes deeper.
- **Both Mary and Martha receive Jesus with hospitality.**
- Martha – traditional way of serving (which is good).

Jesus Corrects Martha / Commends Mary.

- Martha asking Jesus to intervene in family matters (break etiquette).
- Is Jesus telling Martha to slow down? Yes, but I think there is a deeper understanding: Jesus says: (Why are you Anxious):
- Join Mary as she listens and receives the very word of God.
- When we (Take the time to receive Jesus: there is always a gift (We receive grace).

In our own lives there is always a tension.

- Our responsibilities with work and family.
- **And how we respond and spend time with God.**

(Active and Contemplative Prayer): Rosary in action (prayer while multi-tasking (anxiety and worry in our hustle and bustle) vs a moment to simply sit at the table/altar with God.

-Contemplative prayer is (sharing a quiet moment / Eye to Eye / Heart to Heart with God) / And this time will animate the Active moments / Reduce the stress and anxiety.

-I DON'T HAVE TIME (WITH CONTEMPLATIVE): WE HAVE TO MAKE TIME. :)

- When we make time with God (Abraham) and Listen (like Mary).
- We receive the gift of (Sanctifying Grace).

(Dan O'Conner)...I friend of mine was struggling and decided to spend His lunch break at the local church before God. The Prayer Time led him to Call on the Lord / He found clarity and direction within the busyness of his life / The opposite of being anxious like Martha.

(2) Call on the name of the Lord!

-Colossians: St. Paul says: "In my suffering":

-The Lord is near to those who call on His name and acts powerfully for their good. Saint Augustine preached in one of his sermons about the power of the Lord at work in the lives of those who call upon Him.

(-Peace is not the absence of trials our individual crosses), but peace is present to steady us through them) / Anxiety is a lack of trust).

-No trust / no peace.

-"Invoking the name of the Lord can get a Christian through anything the world, the flesh, or the devil can dish out. This is why we should be like Mary.

-TRUST HIM / TURN TO HIM / HE WILL ANSWER YOUR PRAYERS

Sometimes it will be no / But He will always take care of you.

Mary, in choosing "the better part" had made the right choice.

She was completely and wholly present to the Incarnate Word; there was no practical end to this being present, for it was simply an act of love and worship.