

LESSON 10

Name _____

Contextual Analysis of Luke 10:38-42

Directions: Contextual analysis tries to figure out the author's intended meaning for a passage by looking for hints in the preceding and following passages. Use this method of Bible study to answer the following items.

1. Read and summarize Luke 10:38-42.

2. Briefly summarize Luke 10:29-37, the passage that precedes the Martha and Mary story.

3. Briefly summarize Luke 11:1-4, the passage that follows the Martha and Mary incident.

4. What is an objective of the author of Luke's Gospel, judging from Luke 1:3?

5. Now let's go back to the preceding passage, the parable of the Good Samaritan.
 - A. Who were the first two people who saw the half-dead man lying by the side of the road? (see Lk 10:31-32) _____
 - B. These men were both very religious and presumably good-hearted. Why would they not help the poor robbery victim? What reason does Numbers 19:11-13 offer for their behavior?

 - C. In other words, the priest and the Levite were more interested in fulfilling their religious "obligations" than in _____.
6. In the Martha and Mary story:
 - A. What is Mary doing? (10:39) _____
 - B. What is Martha doing? (10:40) _____
 - C. Why is Martha upset? (10:40) _____
 - D. Who is more like the priest and Levite of the previous parable, Martha or Mary? Why?

7. Now turn to the passage *after* the Martha and Mary story. It contains Luke's version of _____.
8. Who asks the question that prompts Jesus to teach this prayer? (11:1)

9. Jewish rabbis or teachers had disciples who sat at their feet in order to _____.
10. Back to the Martha and Mary story for one last look. Luke 10:39 notes the position of Mary. What is significant about it? (see footnote for 10:39)

Lesson 10 continued

11. Mary in this incident is very much like whom in Luke 11:1? _____
12. Jesus in Luke 10:42 is not excusing Mary from housework. But he is giving her, and through her other women, permission to _____.
13. The Martha and Mary story is contained in the same chapter that includes the words of Jesus in Luke 10:23-24. What are these words?

14. For his day and age Jesus took a remarkably tolerant attitude towards the intellectual development of _____.
15. And this worksheet gives one example of how the context surrounding a passage helps illuminate its _____.