

Reading: Luke Chapter 10 and John Chapter 11

What is a home? A home is the place where we go when we are tired; where everyone loves us and understands us. How precious our home is, yet Jesus did not have a home of his own at all, but there was one home where he loved to go when he was tired and that was the home of Lazarus, Martha and Mary.

Martha and Mary's home was in a village called Bethany outside of Jerusalem away from the noise and bustle of the big town.

Lazarus, Martha and Mary were Jesus's special friends. We may be sure that when he went there they would wash his feet, give him a meal and make him feel at home and happy. Jesus was the greatest teacher that ever lived and we know that when he was at this home he taught them all about the things God was going to do. Mary loved to listen to him and sometimes she would forget her work. So Martha was cross when Mary forgot to help her and she complained to Jesus. Jesus gently showed Martha how important it was to listen to everything he had to say.

While Jesus was away a very sad thing happened to Martha and Mary; their brother Lazarus was ill and died. The two sisters were very unhappy. So Martha and Mary sent for Jesus who could help them in their sadness. Although Jesus loved Lazarus, he was very sad, and stayed away two whole days. Jesus finally arrived at Bethany and Martha went out to meet him, she said that if he had been here Lazarus wouldn't have died. Jesus told Martha that their brother would rise again (come back to life), she said that she knew he would "in the resurrection at the last day". Jesus told Martha to have faith in Him, Martha replied that she believed that he was the Son of God. Mary rushed out to see Jesus also saying to Jesus, "If thou hadst been here, my brother had not died".

Jesus went to the tomb where Lazarus was and said "Lazarus, come out" and Lazarus came out of the cave. Jesus had performed a miracle by raising Lazarus from the dead. He must have loved Lazarus very much, it is a great privilege being loved by Jesus. Jesus was given the wonderful power of God his Father to raise Lazarus up.

Mary showed her love for Jesus by spending all she had to buy ointment to put on Jesus' feet. The ointment, we are told, was very costly.

Point to remember:- Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.