

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I pray that all of you are safe and well during this pandemic. I know that my normal life has changed greatly, as I am sure that yours has as well. I have been teleworking, so my days are full of Zoom meetings and conference calls trying to help the unemployed in our area connect to resources to provide for their families as well as find jobs. Our world as we know it is changing forever.

My devotion today was Luke 10: 38-39 entitled "Peace or Panic"

<sup>38</sup> As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. <sup>39</sup> She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said.

As Eastern Star members we know this story very well! Or do we? Our world today is much in a panic mode with the Coronavirus. We worry about the safety of being in public and if we should even go out of the protection of our homes. Just as Martha was panicked and stressed about Jesus' visit. She was running about preparing a meal, wondering why Mary was not helping her, and she even questioned Jesus. Martha was bossy, blaming, and distracted. All the while, Mary was in contrast to Martha:

- Resting at the Lord's feet while Martha was restless
- Worshiping while Martha worried
- Remaining at peace while Martha panicked
- Sitting while Martha stewed
- Listening while Martha lashed out

How did Jesus' respond: Luke 10: <sup>41</sup> "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, <sup>42</sup> but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her." So Jesus commended Mary for doing what is most important---spending time with Him. Are you Martha or Mary?

May the Lord bless you, with a smile on your face and love in your heart!

Star Love and Hugs,

Robbin Hall  
Worthy Grand Matron  
Grand Chapter of Virginia  
Order of the Eastern Star