



# cultivate

"Cultivate" is a bimonthly electronic publication of ASK Network USA that informs and encourages ASKers in the work of praying for the church, community and all the nations. It seeks to cultivate a deeper relationship with God and with one another.

## A TIME TO REFOCUS

*Luke 10:42 - There is only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her.*

We're all familiar with this portion of scripture, and while Martha often gets the bad rap, Jesus wasn't criticizing her service ..... He was calling her to refocus ... to come back to sit at His feet. Martha was distracted by many things, while Mary was focused on the 'one thing'.

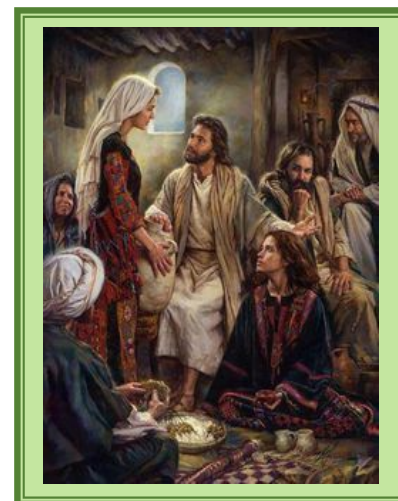
Distraction has been identified as a major 'illness.' in our society .... an 'illness' because it is so all-pervasive that we don't even realize we have the disease. Like Martha, who was distracted with the details of having dinner ready, we too can be distracted by the many things related to family and work that demand our attention and time.... to say nothing of social media, which is perhaps the most consuming distraction of our day.

Distractions can become addictive when they draw us away from the main thing - the one thing - and sometimes the only way to deal with them is to be ruthless.

That's one reason why we so value the 6-week season of Lent that leads us from Ash Wednesday through Good Friday to Resurrection Day. Historically Lent has become a season of 'giving up' something, but it should also be a season of slowing down, being more deliberate and intentional in our time with the Lord, practicing those things that help us focus on the 'One'. Whatever your church tradition, you can make Lent a season of repentance, refreshing and refocus on the One who died and is now alive forevermore!!

The question then for each of us is: What changes and spiritual disciplines are needed to refocus my heart? Lord Jesus, we are asking You to give us the desire and willingness to become people of the ONE THING!

Art and Roberta



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March/Apr 2019

**ASKing for:**

Cote D'Ivoire and  
Paraguay

*"For the Lord to pour out  
His Spirit"*

*Joel 2:28*

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**In the  
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**ASKing for Israel:  
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**Ask with us.....**

Pray for the Lord's Leading as We Plan for the

**ASK Network USA National Conference**

Gathering - Together

At the

Dekoven Center

Racine, Wisconsin

September 11 - 14, 2019

**Registration details coming soon**

[www.dekovencenter.org](http://www.dekovencenter.org)

*Heb. 10:25: "Let us consider how we may spur one another on.....  
Let us not give up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing  
but let us encourage one another..."*

