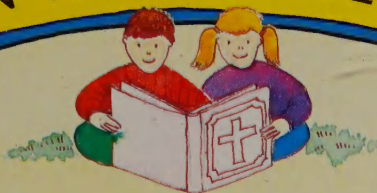
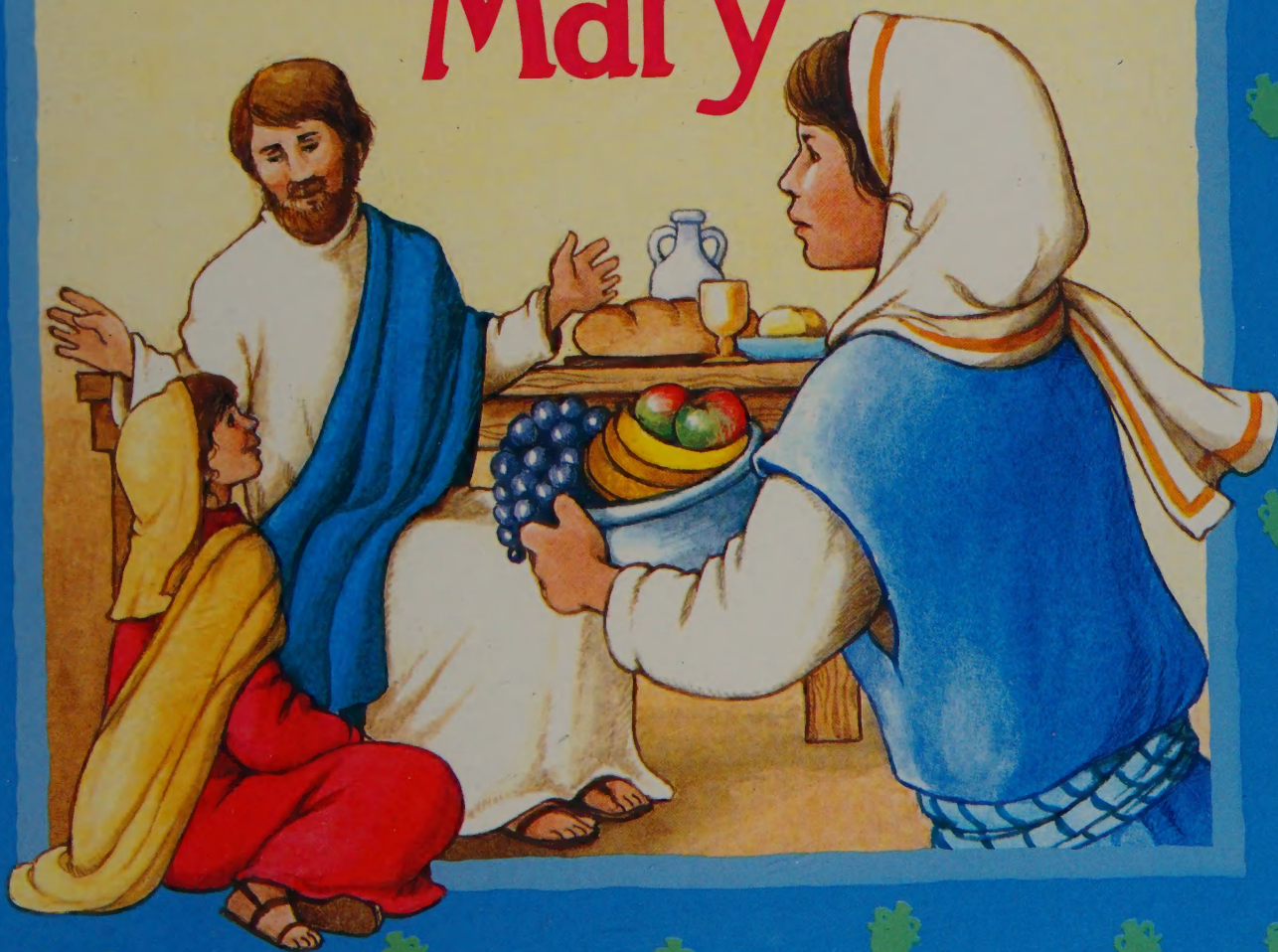


NOW I CAN READ BIBLE STORIES



# Martha and Mary





# Martha and Mary

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# Martha and Mary



Rhona Pipe

Illustrated by  
Jenny Press





No one was moving  
in the streets of the village  
on the hillside.

A dog was sleeping in the sun.  
The women were sewing or cooking  
in the shade by their houses.

All of a sudden  
there was a noise.









‘Did you hear that?’  
Mary said to her sister Martha.  
‘I’m sure there was a noise.  
I’m going to find out.’











‘Come quick,’ Mary said.  
‘It’s Jesus and his friends —  
a crowd of them.  
Let’s invite them for a meal.  
Come on! You ask him.  
You’re the eldest.’









‘Jesus!’ Martha said.

‘Why didn’t you tell us you  
were coming?’

It’s great to see you again.

Will you come for a meal — er —  
all of you?’

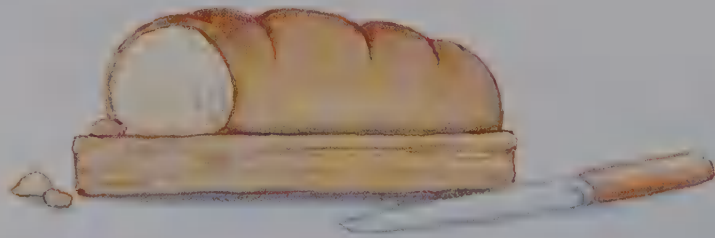
Martha was thrilled,  
but she was also upset.







There was so much to do.  
First she had to buy more food,  
and wash it  
and cook it.  
And bake bread.  
And put it all out nicely.  
And pour out drinks.









No. First she had to go to the well  
for more water  
for Jesus and his friends to wash.  
And find lots of towels  
from somewhere.









But first she had to borrow  
more cups and plates and . . .  
Martha needed help.  
Where was Mary?







Mary was with Jesus, of course.  
She was sitting on the ground  
with the others.  
All Mary wanted to do  
was listen to Jesus.










Martha felt like crying.  
She said, 'Jesus.  
Don't you care about me?  
I've got all this work to do.  
All by myself.  
It's not fair.  
Tell Mary she's got to help.'









Jesus looked at Martha and smiled.  
'Oh, Martha,' he said.  
'You're too fussed up.  
You put the wrong things first.  
Only one thing is really important.  
And Mary's got it right.'

What do you think Martha did then?











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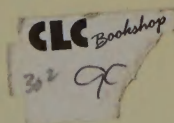
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