



Time Alone with God

By Shannon Ford on May 10, 2022

TODAY'S READING: Mark 1

A quick review of Mark 1:21-34 describes an incredibly busy day for Jesus. His day starts with teaching in the synagogue. During his teaching, Jesus is confronted by a demon-possessed man. Jesus casts out the demon and the people are amazed. As soon as He leaves the synagogue, Jesus goes to Simon Peter's house and heals his mother-in-law. Then that evening, the whole town gathers at Peter's house bringing all the sick and demon-possessed people. Jesus ministers throughout the evening healing the sick and casting out demons. Now that is a day full of ministering, which left Jesus exhausted.

Then we read Mark 1:35, *"Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed."* Now if anyone deserved to sleep in after an exhausting day, it was Jesus. But if time alone and prayer with the Father was important enough for Jesus to get up early in the morning after a tough day, then we have no excuse for not making our daily time with the Lord a priority.

The Bible and prayer are the primary ways God speaks to us. Reading the Bible and prayer are the best ways to learn about God, ourselves and the world around us. New believers, as well as those who have been Christians for many years, cannot spend too much time in prayer and reading the Bible. For the effective Christian disciple, regular and consistent time reading God's Word and praying is not optional. It is a necessity.

PRAYER: Lord, forgive me for the times when I have allowed busyness, distractions, laziness and fatigue to keep me from spending time alone with You. Lord, I pray that spending time alone in Your Word and prayer will be both a longing and the desire of my heart. Amen.

TOMORROW'S READING: Mark 2

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