

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

14 September 2025

Theme: Men always ought to pray

Text: Mark 1:29-39, Luke 4

Title: "Departed to a solitary place, and there He prayed"

INTRODUCTION

1. Pulpit theme – "Men always ought to pray" (Luke 18:1)
 - a. To see the necessity of prayer
 - b. To not be discouraged in life
 - c. To learn how to sustain a strong prayer life
2. Focus – the study of the Lord Jesus' life and teachings
 - a. His deep devotional prayer life
 - b. Instructional and inspirational for us all

THE LORD JESUS' PERSONAL EXAMPLE OF PRAYER

³⁵ Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a ¹⁹solitary place; and there He prayed. Mark 1:35

1. A glimpse of the Lord Jesus' daily life of ministry
 - a. Teaching in the synagogue (Mark 1:21-22)
 - b. Casting out demons (Mark 1:23-28)
 - c. Healing the sick (Mark 1:29-31)
 - d. Continuing ministry late into the night (Mark 1:32-34)
2. The place of prayer in His daily life
 - a. He prayed very early in the morning (Mark 1:35a)
 - i. A long time before daylight
 - ii. This was in spite of having a full day of ministry the day before

- b. He prayed in solitude (Mark 1:35b)
 - i. He went out to a deserted place to pray alone
 - ii. This allowed Him to have an unhurried time with God
3. Affirmation that this action of prayer was a pattern in His life

¹⁶*So He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed. Luke 5:16*

- a. He often withdrew from the multitudes to pray
- b. It had become a personal discipline for Him to pray like this
- c. It was a consistent part of His life!

ONE OF THE PRINCIPLES BEHIND HIS PRAYER LIFE – THE SCRIPTURES

⁴*“The Lord GOD has given Me
The tongue of the learned,
That I should know how to speak
A word in season to him who is weary.
He awakens Me morning by morning,
He awakens My ear
To hear as the learned.*

⁵*The Lord GOD has opened My ear;
And I was not rebellious,
Nor did I turn away.*

⁶*I gave My back to those who struck Me,
And My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard;
I did not hide My face from shame and spitting. Isaiah 50:4-6*

- 1. Isaiah 50:4-6 – A prophetic word concerning the Messiah
 - a. A glimpse of the training years of the Messiah
 - b. How He cultivated His prayer life before public ministry
 - c. The Lord Jesus understood this prophecy, and fulfilled it cf. Matthew 5:17-18

2. The Lord Jesus' focus in prayer
 - a. To be in communion with the Father
 - i. To be awakened by Him
 - ii. To hear Him speak
 - iii. An intimate time of relating to God
 - b. To be instructed by God
 - i. To have the tongue of the learned
 - ii. To know how to speak a word in season to him who is weary
 - iii. To be prepared for the suffering that awaited Him
3. The Lord Jesus' commitment
 - a. He would wake up morning by morning to hear the Father
 - b. He would not be rebellious to what the Father would say
 - c. He would obey and fulfil all that the Father willed for Him to do
4. The cultivation of His prayer life helped Him to
 - a. Sustain a closeness to God
 - b. Have a living consciousness of His Father's will
 - c. Be strengthened for the work He is called to do

REFRESHED FOR MINISTRY AFTER PRAYING

³⁶And Simon and those who were with Him searched for Him. ³⁷When they found Him, they said to Him, "Everyone is looking for You."

³⁸But He said to them, "Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also, because for this purpose I have come forth."

³⁹And He was preaching in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and casting out demons.

Mark 1:36-39

1. He had an unflinching commitment to ministry
 - a. Peter and the disciples told Him that many were looking for Him
 - i. To be healed
 - ii. To have demons cast out
 - b. But the Lord Jesus was clear on His purpose
 - i. To go to the next towns
 - ii. To preach the gospel there also
 - c. He was conscious of reaching out to many more

2. He served with great power
 - a. He was energised to travel throughout all Galilee, from town to town
 - b. He consistently preached the gospel in their synagogues
 - c. He was also able to cast out demons again and again

THE CHALLENGE FOR US

1. Let us be inspired by the personal example of the Lord Jesus
 - a. How the Scriptures was His principle for His prayer life
 - b. How He cultivated His prayer life from a young age
 - c. How He sustained it and it became a pattern in His life

2. Let us be challenged to follow His example
 - a. To desire
 - i. Communing with God
 - ii. Being instructed by God

- b. To be committed
 - i. To find the daily discipline to cultivate our prayer life
 - ii. To not be rebellious and turn away from God
 - c. To discover the value a strong prayer life can bring to our daily living
3. May we find a stronger and deeper prayer life, as we look to the Lord Jesus!