

Exegetical Notes, Mark 1:35-39

“Do You Pray?”

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Mark 1:35-39

Verse 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.

- This verse tells us of Jesus’ daily prayer routine. There are several points worth noting: 1. He prayed before the day actually began. (He got up before dawn to pray.) 2. It was the first thing he did each day. 3. He went alone to a place where he would not be interrupted to pray
- What is of most importance is to note that Jesus, though himself God, while in flesh prayed!

Verse 36-37

Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed, “Everyone is looking for you!”

- Note that Jesus’ prayer was of some length. He prayed from before dawn until everyone else was awake and looking for him.
- Note that Jesus’ disciples did not seem to notice what Jesus was doing or the importance of it. They were more focused on “everyone else” than they were on Jesus and what Jesus was doing.

Verse 38:

Jesus replied, “Let us go somewhere else -- to the nearby villages -- so I can preach there also. That is why I have come.” So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

- Apparently, Jesus’ prayer had refocused his attention on his larger ministry. He was not called simply to Capernaum but to all the world. His resolve, after this session in prayer, was to go to more people to fulfill the purpose for which he had been sent to earth. Prayer had refocused Jesus’ attention on God’s plan for him.

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