



Being with Jesus:

A Devotional From the Book of Mark

Week 1
Being With God

Day 4

Scripture

“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. Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed: ‘Everyone is looking for you!’” — Mark 1:35-37

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.” — Mark 12:30-31

Prayer:

Jesus, help me to spend time with You. Help me to find the ways that I can enjoy being in Your presence. Lead me to arrange my priorities correctly. Amen.

Reflection

Sometimes it can be hard to set aside time to be with Jesus. We’re busy people. There are a lot of important things to be done. Between school, sports, friends, and church, our schedules can become full very quickly.

Jesus knew the feeling. People were always looking for and wanting something from Him. He often had to pry Himself away from crowds of people to spend time alone with His Father. In doing this, Jesus showed us that it’s okay, even necessary, to sometimes leave things undone in order to make time with God a priority.

There are times when we have so many things to do that we may feel guilty taking time away to be with God, but Jesus taught and demonstrated by His actions what was truly important. In Mark chapter 12, Jesus was asked what the most important commandment in the law was. His answer was to love God and others. This means if we are not taking time to get to know and love God, we are ignoring the greatest commandment! If you feel guilty about taking time to be with God, or are feeling like you have not motivation to do it, keep in mind that it is the greatest thing you can do.

Questions

What gets in the way of your spending time with God?

How does knowing that loving God is the greatest commandment change your priorities?