

## How Jesus Coped with a Busy Life

We live in an age that brings great demand upon our time. We labor from dawn until set of sun and still find that we have not accomplished all that we desire. If we have not already put into our daily regimen a private time of devotion, we certainly will find ourselves laying to rest without having *found* time to spend with our maker.

Sadly, this is the commentary of many of God's children. We are living, yet our soul is only half that it could be without the power that private devotion affords. Our body can only go so long before it begins to long for a drink to satisfy its basic needs for hydration. Does not our soul have basic needs?

We live in a moral desert, a wilderness parched with sin where the sun of life saps our spiritual strength and ardor. We find our souls longing for a drink from that spiritual fountain. And if we do not find it, our soul languishes, and our spiritual experience becomes a dull unsatisfying drudgery.

Our days are often flurries of demands and activities. We are required to deal with life's expected demands and those that arise unexpectedly. On every hand something requires our attention, our time, our energies. A busy life is a taxing one. And without help from on high we are sure to find our souls deprived of that which brings it life.

Christ did not leave us in this modern world without example. We need only look into the book of Mark and begin reading to see that Christ lived a very busy life. In the first chapter we read that *immediately* one thing happened, *straightway* another took place, and *forthwith* something else occurred. He lived a life of great industry and He was always being thronged upon with needs and the requests of the multitudes.

Jesus left us an example of how to deal with this kind of lifestyle. We see His formula for victorious living. *And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.* This is how Christ prepared Himself for the necessities of the day, He prayed. And not only prayed but He prayed early in the morning before His demands came upon Him.

This is the simple answer for victory and overcoming power. Let us drink from the fountain *before* stress parches our souls. Let us seek God early. Let prayer shroud us with a buffer of grace before trouble comes to our door. Too often we try and cover ourselves with prayer after we have been besieged with a need. And too often we find our little prayer in the moment of need is not sufficient. I tell you why, it is because our small prayers have not been backed up with a greater prayer life. But when one has spent the best part of his morning with Christ, he can confidently call on his master to aid him throughout the day, for they have already been in communication.

I believe we often make the mistake of giving our time to urgent things and not to important things. For the urgent things are not always that critical. They cry aloud and gain our attention, while the important things whisper to us from a dark corner in our mind.

Let us follow the example left by Him who was tempted at every point like we are, and let us pray, alone and in the morning.