

Prayer and Preaching

Mark 1:35-39

Intro: It's hard to imagine that men would preach without praying first...or often, but I'm sure it happens. I am saddened to admit that I've done it in the past as well. However, our Lord has provided an excellent and consistent example for us to follow. And, happily, his disciples profited from it and followed in their master's steps as well. Here is one of the first passages that document Christ's practice.

I. Jesus' context for prayer (vs. 35)

- A. His time for prayer: early!
- B. His place for prayer: wilderness
- C. His atmosphere for prayer: alone/quiet.

II. Jesus' testimony in prayer (vs. 36, 37)

- A. His disciple's search for him: Where's Jesus praying?
- B. His disciple's perspective of ministry for him: needs to be "doing"
- C. His disciple's "demand" of him: "Everyone is looking for you..."

III. Jesus' response from his context of prayer (vs. 38)

- A. We must keep going...
- B. There are others who need my ministry...
- C. *Preaching* is the reason I've come...

IV. Jesus' ministry from his context of prayer (vs. 39)

- A. Covering the region of Galilee
- B. Preaching...
- C. And performing miracles...

V. Jesus' examples practiced by his disciples (Acts 6: 4)

- A. The apostles' principled emphasis for ministry
- B. My foundational verses for ministry

VI. And as for you, will you follow Jesus' example as well?