



The Life of Christ Series: The Purpose of Healing *Mark 1:35-45*

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Last week, we talked about Jesus **calling** His disciples to live their life daily as a follower of Jesus "Follow Me" and #1. **Become** more like Him in every aspect of their life. **God is not looking for the hardest worker, but for the humblest learner.** #2. **Knowing** God is learning and being familiar in the truth of God's Word. Jesus MINISTERED, the disciples WATCHED him. Jesus taught while the disciples observed, listened, and learned. They were saturated with Jesus' teachings and words that truly changed their worldview.

Jesus does this with us when we follow Him completely. Jesus' power to establish His kingdom in the face of evil is displayed in SILENCE. ²⁹⁻³⁴ This demon acknowledged Jesus' sinlessness and deity as the "Holy One of God." **James 2:19** states "even Demons believe in God and they fear and tremble." They can't even speak in the presence of the Son of God even though they know the truth about Jesus, they reject it and God. According to this account, the Galileans were looking for a performance of power instead of a redeeming relationship.

READ, Mark 1:35-45

And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. **36** And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, **37** and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." **38** And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." **39** And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons. **40** And a leper[[a](#)] came to him, imploring him, and kneeling said to him, "If you will, you can make me clean." **41** Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand and touched him and said to him, "I will; be clean." **42** And immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. **43** And Jesus[[b](#)] sternly charged him and sent him away at once, **44** and said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, for a proof to them."**45** But he went out and began to talk freely about it, and to spread the news, so that Jesus could no longer openly enter a town, but was out in desolate places, and people were coming to him from every quarter.

Jesus didn't want the people to consider Him as a political power. Jesus often tried to avoid the big crowds especially if they were wanting to make him their political leader.

Jesus invested TIME to PRAY with His Father (v 35-38)

The Bible says that Jesus was in complete submission to His Father's Will and spent time communicating with God the Father. Prayer is COMMUNICATION with God. Prayer gives ACCESS to God. We proclaim thanksgiving, petition, power and authority, understanding of God's Word and interpretation of His Will. The Purpose of Jesus' evangelistic preaching of verse ¹⁵ "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." **Luke 19:10** says, "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Prayer brings JOY to God. The prayer of the upright is His delight." Proverbs 15:8 This desolate/solitary place was the place where Jesus fights His spiritual battle through prayer. Prayer is NECESSARY for healing, comfort, provision, and strength. James 5:16 "Prayer of a righteous man is powerful..." **True prayer is evermore true power. You may not always get what you ask, but you shall always have your real needs supplied. – Evangelist, Tom Harmon**

As Jesus is on the move in Galilee preaching and praying, a man with leprosy requests him to be clean. Under the Mosaic law, certain skin diseases made a person ceremonially unclean, excluding him from communal life.

Leviticus 13:45-46 says

"The leprous person who has the disease shall wear torn clothes and let the hair of his head hang loose, and he shall cover his upper lip and cry out, Unclean, unclean. He shall remain unclean as long as he has the disease. He is unclean. He shall live alone. His dwelling shall be outside the camp."

Lepers were not welcome in the city or around the "clean" people. They were considered as outcasts and unclean. **Jesus' ABILITY to heal as the great PHYSICIAN shows he is God.** ^(v 40-42) COMPASSION moved Jesus to HEAL this man. It was forbidden to touch a leper... The healed leper was a testimony that Messiah, the great Physician, had come, and that he respected the law of Moses. This testimony was given both to priests and people. True hope of RESTORATION can only come from the POWER of God. This man's disease isolated him from society including his family. We see Jesus give physical healing and the hope of social healing which can bring about a spiritual healing. **NOTICE: The man did not listen to Jesus' command to tell no one and only report to the priests. But why did Jesus not want this man to tell people? Was this not the purpose of Jesus? What was the purpose of healing?** I am a firm believer that everything that happened in the scriptures was for a reason and happened at the right time. It was meant to be; Jesus knew what this man would do.

Jesus did not come to ABOLISH the law but to FULFILL it. ^(v 43-45) What I mean is that it was accustom for a leper to be examined by the priest first and claimed as pure and cleansed so that this leper may be accepted back into society. **Leviticus 14:1-3** "Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying "This shall be the law of the leper for the day of his cleansing: He shall be brought to the priest. And the priest shall go out of the camp, and the priest shall examine him;" So early on in Jesus' ministry, Jesus appreciated the PRIESTHOOD. Jesus respected the Old Testament LAW.

God's timing and way is always PERFECT and PROPER. In verse 45, the leper disobeys Jesus by proclaiming his healing freely which results in Jesus' teaching coming to a halt. This was not the time for unbridled proclamation. Jesus was currently teaching in the synagogues and tried to avoid crowds, politics and open preaching at this time. We can get so excited that we miss the Spirit's direction of how to properly proclaim what God has done and follow God's leading instead of our own. We get in a hurry and do more out of our will instead of God's. So how to do we know when to minister to others and even proclaim the gospel?

We pray and let God lead!!!