

# LIFE GROUP

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Healing & Authority: Demonstrating the Kingdom January 14, 2024

#### Summary

In this message, Pastor Dale expounds on Mark 1 and emphasizes the importance of following Jesus' example in seeking solitude with God to start each day. Followers of Jesus Christ need to prioritize time with God, not just to present their needs but to soak in His loving presence, aligning their hearts with His will before facing the demands of life.

#### Scripture

*Before daybreak the next morning, Jesus got up and went out to an isolated place to pray. Later Simon and the others went out to find him. When they found him, they said, "Everyone is looking for you." But Jesus replied, "We must go on to other towns as well, and I will preach to them, too. That is why I came." So he traveled throughout the region of Galilee, preaching in the synagogues and casting out demons. A man with leprosy came and knelt in front of Jesus, begging to be healed. "If you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean," he said. Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched him. "I am willing," he said. "Be healed!" Instantly the leprosy disappeared, and the man was healed. Mark 1:35-42 (NLT)*

*"Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns." Mark 8:33 (NIV)*

*"I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. "I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me. Father, I want these whom you have given me to be with me where I am. Then they can see all the glory you gave me because you loved me even before the world began! "O righteous Father, the world doesn't know you, but I do; and these disciples know you sent me. I have revealed you to them, and I will continue to do so. Then your love for me will be in them, and I will be in them." John 17:20-26 (NLT)*

*All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding. Ephesians 1:3-8 (NLT)*

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*Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross. Philippians 2:6-8 (NLT)*

*For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body. Colossians 2:9 (NLT)*

### Let's Start

Where did you go for your most relaxing vacation?

### Gratitude and Prayer

How has God worked in your life since we were together?

### Let's Talk

1. Pastor Dale said, "The more demands are placed on our lives, the more we need to be alone with God." How do you find time to be alone with God in demanding times?
2. Read Mark 1:35-42. How does Jesus touching the leper symbolize the power of God in our lives?
3. In the message, Pastor Dale said, "The reason to seek God in prayer is simply to be in His loving presence. It is out of soaking in His presence that we gain the power and capacity to pray life-changing prayers and face the demands of life." How does understanding the relationship between Jesus and the Father impact your perspective on prayer and seeking God's presence daily?
4. How can believers ensure that, like Jesus, they remain followers of God and not try to lead Him in their daily lives?
5. Share a personal experience where you recognized the difference between a "Me-led" prayer and a "God-led" prayer. How did it change your approach to prayer?

### Let's Act

Pastor Dale talked about the difference between Me-led and God-led prayer in the message. This week, increase your awareness of approaching prayer as being God-led.

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