



“It is Important to Go to a Solitary Place” by Rev Samuel Mametsa, Sunday Service, the 22nd April 2012.

Scripture reading: Mark 1:35-38, Mark 3:10-19, 31-35

Mark 1:31-35 *“31 So He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and immediately the fever left her. And she served them. Many Healed After Sabbath Sunset (Matt 8:16,17; Luke 4:40,41) 32 At evening, when the sun had set, they brought to Him all who were sick and those who were demon-possessed. 33 And the whole city was gathered together at the door. 34 Then He healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and He did not allow the demons to speak, because they knew Him. Preaching in Galilee (Matt 4:23-25; Luke 4:42-44) 35 Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed.”* **Mark 1:31-35 NKJV.**

Mark 3:10-19 *“10 For He healed many, so that as many as had afflictions pressed about Him to touch Him. 11 And the unclean spirits, whenever they saw Him, fell down before Him and cried out, saying, “You are the Son of God.” 12 But He sternly warned them that they should not make Him known. The Twelve Apostles (Matt 10:1-4; Luke 6:12-16) 13 And He went up on the mountain and called to Him those He Himself wanted. And they came to Him. 14 Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, 15 and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons: 16 Simon, to whom He gave the name Peter; 17 James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James, to whom He gave the name Boanerges, that is, “Sons of Thunder”; 18 Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Cananite; 19 and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him. And they went into a house.”* **Mark 3:10-19, NKJV.**

Mark 3:31-35 *“31 Then His brothers and His mother came, and standing outside they sent to Him, calling Him. 32 And a multitude was sitting around Him; and they said to Him, “Look, Your mother and Your brothers are outside seeking You.” 33 But He answered them, saying, “Who is My mother, or My brothers?” 34 And He looked*



around in a circle at those who sat about Him, and said, "Here are My mother and My brothers! 35 For whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother."" **Mark 3:31-35, NKJV.**

As a child of God it is necessary to go to a solitary place. When Jesus Christ went to and after He came back from the solitary place He never discussed it with his disciples. He just rose up early and left and they looked for Him.

If you want to hear God you must go to a solitary place and once you are there God will speak to you. The bible says that when He came back the disciples asked Him *"Where have you been?"* He did not tell them *"I woke up early as I had a special appointment with my God, so that I can receive a special message from God."* He did not want to call them names etc Solitary place is very important for your life.

Maybe Jesus thought if He had told His disciples they would delay or disturb Him. There is a situation where you have to leave people around you behind otherwise they will delay you.

When Jesus speaks to you, He will not invite the person next to you. It is therefore important that when God speaks you don't wait for the next person but do that which God told you to do or to say. There must be no *"I want to tell so and so first"*.

Let me tell you something When God called you He knew about the person next to you. He knew about your husband, your mom, dad etc but still He spoke only to you. Solitary place is a good place for you; maybe the only sound there is the sound of birds singing. **Verse 37 says** ***"37 When they found Him, they said to Him, "Everyone is looking for You."*** **Mark 1:37, NKJV.**

"Everyone is looking for you, Where were you, we were so concerned." Listen to his answer and you will realise that he never responded to their question. He just said to them *"Let us go to the next village."* He did not respond to their question. This is a very dangerous statement. This is because He realised that their question will provoke issues and God will say *"I left you behind because you are lazy."* He ignored them and said *"Let's go to the next village. Let's go and heal people and do miracles."*

The bible says when they arrived in the first village there was a paralyzed person and that the person was healed. The disciples were very furious and amazed at what had happened. This is because Jesus was coming from a solitary place to get power to listen to His Father. If you want to do miracles and wonders you must first go to a solitary place where you will be instructed on what to do and to draw



power from God. When He arrived Mark 3:10 says ***"10 For He healed many, so that as many as had afflictions pressed about Him to touch Him."*** Mark 3:10, NKJV.

They wanted to touch Him because He was coming from somewhere where He got his mandate. They wanted to receive blessings from Him. When you come from a solitary place, demons can't stand in front of you. Check **verse 11** which says ***"11 And the unclean spirits, whenever they saw Him, fell down before Him"*** Mark 3:11, NKJV.

They fell down because He was coming from a solitary place where He was empowered and came back more anointed. When you come back from a solitary place no demon can stand in front of you. The bible encourages us that when you come back from the solitary place all the satanic spirits will fall down before you.

"11 And the unclean spirits, whenever they saw Him, fell down before Him and cried out, saying, "You are the Son of God."" Mark 3:11, NKJV.

When you come back from the solitary place the demon will know who you are and they will respect you and they will know that you are serving God. It is important to go to a solitary place. Remember that He did not torture these demons. The bible says when they saw Him, the bible does not say when He touched them. This is because he was coming from a solitary place. It is important to go to a solitary place.

Verse 12 says ***"12 But He sternly warned them that they should not make Him known."*** Mark 3:12, NKJV. He was talking to people who were possessed after they were healed. After those people were healed He also told them not to tell other people. What kind of person is this? A person with no pride. When we heal people we want the whole world to know. Jesus said ***"Don't tell people as long as you are healed, you don't have to credit it me."***

Imagine you are a cripple who is getting a disability grant. If Jesus heals you will they continue to pay you? No, they will not. Many would have cried out and complained at the loss of the disability grant.

Somebody once told another person don't go to that church otherwise you will be healed and we will die of hunger. Obviously if you are healed you won't get paid.

The healings by Jesus were not pleasing many people. There were some who were disadvantaged by the healings. Do you remember the cripple who was healed by Peter and John whilst collecting money in the tin at the entrance of the temple?



Remember the people who would put him there would never put him there and go into the church afterwards. They would put him there and leave him knowing that after the church services they would come and collect money. Peter said to the cripple, *"In the name of Jesus stand up and walk"* and the cripple stood up, walked, jumped and danced to the Lord.

When those people came back to their milk cow they did not see him and they said *"That man is not there, somebody has stolen the money"* They were not worried about the cripple but about the money. When they looked through the window into the church they saw him dancing. One of them might have said *"Today is a bad day for business."*

One of them might have said to him *"You stupid fool"* He might have responded *"I am dancing for the Lord. I was thirsty to walk. You were walking and I am also happy that I now can walk."*

Maybe your situation is making you like a cripple. Your time is coming. You are going to stand up and walk and those people who put you there (like the cripple man in front of the temple) will see you coming out.

There are people who bury others alive. Maybe they told you *"You will never make it."* The people who told you *"You are sick and will never be healed"* are liars.

When you come from the solitary place. The message from the solitary place will tell you to go to the mountain. When Jesus arrived at the mountain people followed him including those who had been healed and the disciples (it was before they were appointed). Maybe if He had not gone to the mountain they would not have been appointed. The bible says Mark 3:15 ***"15 and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons:"*** Mark 3:15, NKJV.

He got the mandate to appoint the twelve disciples after the mountain (the solitary place).

"16 Simon, to whom He gave the name Peter; 17 James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James, to whom He gave the name Boanerges, that is, "Sons of Thunder"; 18 Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Cananite; 19 and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him." Mark 3:16-19, NKJV.



When I read this scripture I ask myself the question? Why did Jesus appoint Judas Iscariot as He knew His heart before appointing Him? Do you think Jesus did not know His heart when He appointed Him?

Most of the prominent people in the bible were murderers, thieves and thugs. This means that if Jesus can change your heart He can use you. As long as you allow Him to change you. Do you mean there were no innocent people then in the bible which God could have used?

God can still send you irrespective of the situation in your life and what people are saying about you. People can say a lot of things about you which is not what God is saying about you. A lot of people are discouraged by what people are saying about them but they ignore what God says about them. The bible says put trust in God. Don't put your trust in man, man can change like weather. He (God) never changes, since He knew you whilst you were still in your mother's womb, He (God) has never changed. He is faithful and just. Don't trust people. Some people trust pastors to the point that they bow before their pastors. They trust pastors so much they even put the pictures of that pastor on the wall so that when they pray they can look at the pastor's photo.

When you trust God, people will betray you and sometimes when they betray you they will kill your morale and destroy your faith. When you put trust on man and the man offends you, you will leave the church. Is this person your God? Is that why you no longer go to church because this person has offended you? A sinner like you offending you?

"31 Then His brothers and His mother came, and standing outside they sent to Him, calling Him." Mark 3:31, NKJV.

They said about Jesus we are worried about Him it is a long time, He has not been home and **verse 33** Jesus answered them *"Who is my mother, my brother?"* and he looked around in a circle and He said to the sender *"These are my brothers and sisters."* What is the bible telling us here? When He went the solitary place did God want to separate Him from his family? Yes. Because Jesus says *"I don't care about my mother and brother"*. If your mother or sister delays you to go to God, they are not your mother or brother but Jesus says my mother and brother are here with me. There is a situation where you have to abandon your family if they don't want to repent as they will drag you back. They will withdraw power from you. I am not saying you must run away from your family.

Jesus wanted to prove something here because most of the mothers are delaying the development of their children. If your mother still believes in ancestral



worship how will it benefit you? It is what she believes in. Jesus says my mother is supposed to be here with me in the house of God. This is a dangerous statement as Jesus was questioning the integrity of his mother and brother. He expected them to be with him in the house of God giving him support and they were not there. Instead they were outside asking for Him to come out of the church.

Think about it, you want to go to church and your mom says "Don't go to church", if you can respond the way Jesus did, you will be labeled as disrespectful. You have to be bold and stand up for what you believe. The devil can use your mother or brother to derail you and so you have to stand fast, boldly and speak *"My God is in the church. Nothing will separate me from my God. When I accepted God you were not there."*

If Mary (mother of Jesus) was not in church what was she thinking about? Couldn't she remember the pregnancy being prophesied, the visit to Elizabeth and when John started to play in the womb, that it was a divine appointment? Couldn't she remember the words *"Be happy, blessed one because you are going to give birth to a blessed and supernatural child?"* but she had forgotten.

There is a number of Christians who forget where they come from. Even if Jesus moved you from the tavern, they forget and mock God. This is because they don't know this God. This God is dangerous in the sense that He never begs anybody. If you don't tow the line, He will replace you. He has never been stranded, He said if you don't want to worship me I will speak to the stones and they will worship me. If you mock God nothing will go well for you.

The bible says that Jesus says *"My brother and mother are these in the church"*. Imagine you were the mother and the message comes saying *"My mother and brother are in the church"*, what would you say? What is this scripture trying to teach us? Don't allow any other person, be it your biological mother, father, etc to derail you. As long as you are doing the will of God don't allow them to derail you. Remember the devil will use your mom, dad, wife etc to derail you from the will of God. Stand fast as long as you are sure you have been called by God, stand fast. Unless you are claiming you have been called by God, then you will fall and the devil will dance and his agents will dance and have a braai and say *"Who does she think she is?"* Be careful.

I remember in **1 Peter 5:8** ***"8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."*** **1 Peter 5:8, NKJV.**

Peter says don't be ignorant of the devices of the devil as the devil is roaming around seeking whom He may devour The devil is not outside but is in church



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looking for whom he may devour. Put your trust in God. I want to warn you, you must go to a solitary place. Put trust in God, and you must have a solitary place.

Check how Jesus did it, when he came from the solitary place, He appointed the disciples, before He healed and cast out the demons, He was coming from the solitary place.

When he said to the disciples wait in Jerusalem until the power comes upon you , He was from the solitary place. In **Acts 1:8** the power came on the day of Pentecost and they were equipped and empowered and He said go and make all the people the disciples, baptizing them etc

Why did He say they must wait? We need to wait. Remember Peter and the other disciples were ready and eager to go and work? This was after they had betrayed Jesus Christ on the day he was arrested "I don't know this man, I was never with him." People can betray you.

That is why Jesus said wait in Jerusalem because you need something to empower you. In **Acts 2** it says they were bold. You can't preach the word of God without boldness. You need the boldness in you and where do you get it? From above! A lot of people are working using their own power and that is why they are falling and failing. You must ask for power from above.

If us sometimes you don't go to a solitary place you are missing important messages from God as this is where He speaks to you. We need to ask God to take us to the solitary place. Maybe you were sent somewhere and you did not know, and you did not go as you did not know. You need to repent and say I dint know. Maybe you wanted to speak to me in the solitary place but I failed to come to that solitary place. Please God help me to get to that solitary place and if there is something you need to tell me there, take me there. I am now ready to go, speak to me. I am listening. **ALLOW GOD TO SPEAK TO YOUR HEART. Open up your heart to Him and receive his instructions.**

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