

Jesus Prays in a Solitary Place

35 Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.

36 Simon and his companions went to look for him, **37** and when they found him, they exclaimed: “Everyone is looking for you!”

38 Jesus replied, “Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come.”

39 So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

Jesus Heals a Man With Leprosy

40 A man with leprosy^[a] came to him and begged him on his knees, “If you are willing, you can make me clean.”

41 Jesus was indignant.^[b] He reached out his hand and touched the man. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean!” **42** Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cleansed.

43 Jesus sent him away at once with a strong warning: **44** “See that you don’t tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them.” **45** Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere.

Footnotes

- a. [Mark 1:40](#) The Greek word traditionally translated *leprosy* was used for various diseases affecting the skin.
- b. [Mark 1:41](#) Many manuscripts Jesus was filled with compassion

Questions:

1. How did Jesus show the importance of prayer?
2. How important is prayer to you?

Is prayer more than just getting an answer to your request? Explain
3. What did Jesus say was the reason he had come?
4. What did the man with leprosy do after Jesus healed him?
5. How can you spread the “Good News” to others in your life?

What is the importance of prayer in sharing the “Good News”?