

PRINCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST SERIES

SOLITUDE

This morning lets look at the book of Matthew 5: 6 *“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.”*

Jesus is speaking about a desire. Not just an ordinary desire. Not an inclination but something that is deep inside His life that is instilled in His disciples. A desire for God. From the first time that I was born again at the age of seventeen, I had a burning desire for God. Through the years, the desire has not diminished but it has grown even stronger. And that driving desire to know God has been the propulsion that drove us to seek the best from God. And it astounds me many times when I fellowship with people, why some lacks that desire. That’s what we are going to touch on this morning.

Matthew 7 and it is in line with what we are looking at. Verse 7 onwards, *“Ask, and it will be given to you, seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.”* Those who don’t ask, those who don’t seek and those who don’t knock will not have it. There are many ways we could title this message that we are bringing forth.

As you know some of the principles we have titled them differently but this morning we want to look at one of the principles of Jesus’ life that I call solitude. Taking time for solitude to fulfill a desire to be alone with God, seeking Him and

away from the distraction of the crowd. Away from the hindrances of those who demand a part of your life but just seeking solitude and a quiet moment with God. You will realize as you study the lives of great men and women, whether in the kingdom of God and not in the kingdom of God that these great people had time for solitude. This is something that the modern generation lacks. See many people are brought up without the art of contemplation and solitude. They are surrounded by noise all the time. Even the music in the world begins to get more and more noisy. That's why today scientists tell you that a prolonged hearing of some of the modern rock and roll music can cause deafness. People surround themselves with noise. As they grow into teenagers, they always want to be in the crowd. They always want to be in the in. They always want to be among the crowd. Always want to be like everybody else.

But great leaders are those who learned how to strive on times of solitude. Why is that so? In crowd psychology people have a tendency to follow the crowd and herd instinct to have psychological peace. They are easier to manipulate. They become people easily manipulated and they just flow with the tide and are as unstable as the wave of the ocean. That's what the devil wants to do. He wants to bring people to the place where he can cause them to walk as zombies in their daily life. Go to work, work, work, drive, drive, drive, traffic jam, jam, jam, jam, go home, eat, sleep, on the alarm, wake up and work. See we live life like a zombie. And then what do these people do when they are stressed out? They go to the pub. They go among friends to play snooker. They do all kinds of things to draw out all those things. But none of them seek solitude. In fact a lot of people in the world are afraid of solitude because when they are on their own, they do not know what to do with their time. Have you notice this? If some of the teenagers are left alone, they don't know what to do with their time. They are either be phoning some friends, surfing the Internet or looking at the TV box. They don't know what to do with their time. We are not producing a generation of great leaders.

People are afraid to be alone. They are afraid. They always need to be somewhere. But aloneness was not designed for loneliness. Aloneness is part and parcel of every human life that God designed it. We need fellowship yes, we also need solitude. Without a combination of both, we will not be the perfect man or woman God wants us to be. One of the key secrets in Jesus' life is solitude. Let me give you some examples of His desire for aloneness. You see people who are

strong, who know their God and who know what they want in God loves to be alone with God. They love to be left alone with God. But people who are afraid to be alone with God are people who are filled with noise, that is external noise and internal noise. Their soul is not at peace. People who are not at peace in themselves and with themselves are afraid of being alone. When there are internal noises, you are not at peace in yourself. You are afraid to be alone because when you are alone, all the external noises quiet down and you can hear your internal noise and you can't live with it. But those who are at peace with themselves, at peace with God and with men love the quietness, the solitude because when everything is quiet around them, they can set their quietness on their inside. And it's such a delight. It's a powerful peace that garrison heart and mind.

Jesus enjoys solitude and it's one of His principles. If you have never practice that before, it may be time to start. If you want to reach into greatness in God, it's one of the key principles. If you are afraid of being alone, be daring, this Christmas, just be alone for one whole day. For six hours. You will find that during that time of solitude, you wrestle with your thought life. You wrestle with the desires of your life until finally you are at peace. And you come out a stronger person. There will be solidness in your character that was never there before. Lets quickly look at the life of Jesus.

Mark 1: 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."*

Do you think our Lord loves solitude? Do you think our Lord loves to be among the sinners and publican too? Yes He does. He is balanced and is not like some people. They are either in a vertical relationship with no horizontal relationships or in horizontal relationships with no vertical relationship. The Lord is balanced. And through the teaching of Jesus we can find the balance. He loves the solitude. Could He have prayed in the house, after all He got up earlier than everybody. Yes, but He wants to get out of the place. One of the things I enjoy most when I go out for a walk is just get out of the house, just get out of something that is made by man. Just be like Adam with his clothes of course, walking and seeing all these houses and see how small these pigeonholes are and how our minds become restricted. You just love to go out to an open field, somewhere in the

open, somewhere away from the things of man and just walk to God, to hunger for Him, thirst for Him, to seek Him, to ask from Him, to knock the door of the spirit realm.

Lets look at some of the examples here. In the gospel of Luke, do you know that the man who was going to announce Jesus' coming, grew up in great solitude? The greater God wants to use your life, the greater your life is going to change other lives, the greater your need of solitude because you need to be different and find the difference to bring to humanity. John the Baptist was going to change his generation and prepare them for Jesus. The bible in the gospel of Luke speaks about his life in chapter one verse 80, "*So the child grew and became strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his manifestation to Israel.*" He was out there in the desert contemplating on the things of God. That quiet solitude with God away from mankind, building those things in his spirit in his life. Getting that kind of mental concentration necessary to the kind of leadership he has to bring forth. Remember God may have a special call for some of your life. In order to change the world, you must come out of the world. You can't change the world within the world. You have to come out and then change the world. Come out and live in the heavenly places of the spirit and then you can go back and change the world. He probably started his life and ministry about the same time as Jesus. He was probably about thirty years old, which means minus the time that he was a child. For twenty over years he probably lived in wilderness. He is different from other people. He has a destiny. Is your destiny just to be like an ordinary person in this world? You could live and die and the world has not changed. Or do you want to live and die or live and then go to be with Jesus knowing that because of your life society and the world have changed for the good, for the better and for God because of you. Then seek solitude in your life. What about Jesus' life?

Lets look at Him in the gospel of Luke 4. The moment he was filled with the Holy Spirit, He went to be alone. Isn't it strange? If people are filled with the Holy Spirit you want to send them out. Yet the moment He was filled with the Holy Spirit in chapter 4: 1 He was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to wrestle with the things in His soul, in His flesh, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye and the pride of life. To be tempted by the enemy. To wrestle in a realm which no man has seen before. The Holy Spirit can lead you into the wilderness to be quiet and there in the quietness of the wilderness, God deals with your life. You

don't know what that quietness is like. When I was in New Zealand Sr. Clara took me to visit a farm and we were way out, we were acres and acres away from the city and there's hardly a soul in sight. You sit down and there was quietness like you never feel. I call it awesome and I just enjoyed that quietness, that peacefulness, internally and externally. The wilderness in there, although there is some natural noises here and there but generally it's quiet. And there for forty days and forty nights there was a wrestling that went on in His soul but when He overcame the storms and the temptations in His soul, Jesus walked out in the power of the Spirit. Solitude makes strong people. The lack of it makes weak people. Weak people are easily manipulated.

Even when He started His ministry in the gospel of Luke 4: 42 *"Now when it was day, He departed and went into a deserted place. And the crowd sought Him and came to Him and tried to keep Him from leaving them."* So we are told here that the Lord Jesus continue to seek God's face every time after great meetings. That's why many preachers after they had great meetings at night, and whenever they travel all over in any nation of the world, Eastern or Western is always the same. The people want to take you out for supper; it's always the same. They will say, "Do you want supper?" Usually you don't eat before the meeting. They always want to feed you. After the meeting, it is time for feasting. But as for me after a meeting and the Holy Spirit has moved, what I like to do is not sit in a restaurant. What I like to do is to quickly get alone and just meditate and thank God. Just be in quietness with Him to enjoy and review all that He has done. So different, not only it's better for your spiritual health, I think it's also better for your natural health.

In chapter 5, another statement made by Jesus and here it's sort of another repetition. Luke 5: 15-16 *"the report went around concerning Him all the more;"* Now He was getting more famous. *"And great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by Him of their infirmities. So He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed."*

In anything of the human life, anything that has touched your life or anything great, the great principles that you have learned from people here and there have always come from the solitude of their lives. Have you notice that? Or the great song that we sing, great phrases that touched your life that come in those times of

solitude. The great poems, the great stories that come forth, great novels that are written that transformed people's lives have come from the solitude of human life who gets alone to draw from the riches of the spirit and soul that God has placed within him or her. So Jesus obviously loves that solitude. What's the reason for this love and what's the necessity for that? You will realize that there is always a necessary point in our life. In our heavenly development it is necessary to get away from everyone, to get alone with God, to ask, to seek, to hunger and thirst. It has to do with the hunger and thirst in our lives for God. For when we are really hungry and thirsty for God, you will seek solitude to be alone with Him. To drink of the fountains of heaven that God has so designed.

As we look at that area, we want to consider two things. One is that there is always noise out there on this earth. There are two types of noise that we face. The noises physically which includes the crowds in people and all those around you. Now those noises are not just what we classify as noise but the kind of noise that comes is this in Mark 4: 19 *"and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful."* Now if you know in this life that there is something very dangerous to the Word of God in your life, would you be careful to watch over it? Of course, now some of those dangerous things are not what we consider dangerous in our natural man. They are, for example, the cares of this world. Do you know what the cares of this world are like? I mean everyday you have housework to do. Everyday you have your office work, business deals, datelines to meet, bills to pay, children to take care, books to study, reports to make etc. You could get so absorbed in them that they are strangling the Word of God in your life. Wouldn't you be watchful of it? Yet a lot of people are not watchful. They just allowed the cares to overtake them and choke the Word. You don't have to break the Ten Commandments to lose your productivity in God. All you have to do is get the cares of this world and they choke the Word. We have to be very watchful and treat all these things as enemies. All your jobs on this earth, you do it watchfully. You have to constantly watch and pray with awareness that these things won't pull you down. And you got to say no many times.

When we moved into the new house, there were hundreds of thing to do. Boxes and boxes and I have got to tell myself, forget it, I am going to leave them untidy. Let me feed my spirit man. I got to say no to it. I will give only that

amount of time to do this kind of things. The rest of the time I just want to seek His face. The world may call you a fool, the world may call you all kinds of names but in heaven you got a bigger reward. You rather be called a fool here than to be called a fool in heaven. Although in heaven everybody is so nice, they won't call you a fool. You don't need to be called a fool because you will know it. You will know as you are known. We got to put ourselves to a stop. Lets not get too busy about this life. It doesn't matter even if it doesn't look like a human habitation. Some of our homes probably will look like *Away in the manger*. If your home looks like a manger shake hands with me, it's all right. I would rather have Jesus and a manger than a palace without Jesus.

These are what I call the noises. These are the soul noises, the things that are there. The more dangerous noise is the noise in the soul. Worldly cares occur in your mind and they are the internal noise that are there all the time crying out things to be done. We have to learn to shut them out and say no, I am not going to do it. Just leave this aside and let me worship God. Be like Mary. When Mary and Martha were having Jesus coming to the house, Martha was busy cooking all the best food and so busy thinking of pleasing Jesus in all these ways. Her intention was good, but her method was wrong. But Mary, she was a different type of character. She sat at Jesus' feet and says, "Jesus tell me one more parable, one more story. Tell me Jesus tell me." But Martha was concerned for all the physical things to be done and she got upset because her sister didn't help her. Since she cannot scold her sister, probably she wouldn't listen, she tried to get Jesus to scold her. Yes, that was the master plan. She said, "Jesus please talk to my sister, she won't listen to me. Tell her to help me." You think Jesus just do what you tell Him to do. Surprise, Jesus said, "Martha, Martha, why are you troubled about many things." By that time Martha was about to cry. And Jesus said, "Mary has chosen the good part." What would be your feeling if you were Martha? Rebuked, corrected and loved at the same time. You want to cry. You want to obey. You didn't know what to do. This was Jesus; you don't just react. If it had been anyone, you would probably say, "What are you? You don't care for me. Don't want to cook for you next time." But this is the Lord Jesus Christ, you don't scold the King of kings and the Lord of lords. Martha must have felt crushed, humbled. If I were her, I will quickly sneak out, put off all the fires, take whatever cooking that is ready, just bring it there and place it before Jesus. Quickly sit next to Mary at Jesus' feet and listen. You can always eat food at any other time but you don't have Jesus words to hear all the time. Mary knew that the words that Jesus spoke

were more precious than any other things.

These are the noises that are out there that we need to cut ourselves from. Move away from. If you don't learn to do that your spiritual life will get choked. There are a lot of Christians going to church whose spiritual life is actually choked up. They sing *Amazing grace how sweet the sound* but the sound that they sing were not so sweet in the spirit because their lives are choked up. God doesn't want that. He wants us to be free from those noises so that out from our life comes fragrance to God. A heart undefiled, pure without the cares of this life. That's the noise we talk about. Have you notice that the only way to get out of those noises is to get away. To get away. There is no short cut. You just got to get away. Ladies, if your kitchen is where the noise is, get away. Lets look at it this way. If you don't get spiritual and get close to God, how do you expect God to touch your husband? Do you realize that, ask and you shall receive. Seek and you shall find. Knock and it shall be opened. You are knocking heaven's door for your husband. If you don't get into that kind of presence, how can your husband change? We are talking about an overabundance of that crushing our lives. The only key is to get away from it. I love to get out, get away, and just be with the nature. If it were possible to have a world where we don't have to live with houses, all you need is just build the toilet. Have you wonder whether your heavenly mansion has a toilet? Do you know that Adam and Eve didn't have to go to toilet until they fell? They don't have to. It was a different kind of world. All these things took place only when we began to depend on physical food for our lives. When the body just feeds on spiritual food and the body is in line, there is no such need to expel anything from our bodies.

Secondly, there is a noise that is sub-conscious. That is at a higher level than we realize. There is a noise, the cares and concerns that are bogged up but there are some other things that we need to get out from. There is what I call a sub-conscious influence over every nation, over every city, over every place that we need to get out from. Somehow if in the city of one thousand, one thousand people are thinking the wrong thoughts, it has a certain atmosphere over that place. In the book called 'Prayer The Greatest Force On Earth' the author says he visualize the world like a world not just made of buildings and people but a world made from peoples' thoughts. For example, there could be five billions people on earth, and he makes this statement, he has gone very deep in the area of prayer. He says if all the five billions people in the world and the majority of them are thinking the wrong

thoughts, the whole world pushes towards the evil side. But if the majority of the people began to think the good thoughts of God then the world began to go into a closer walk with God. Do you know that there is such a thing as the world influences that are taking place besides the angels are working, besides what we are doing by prayer? In the book he was teaching people how to transmit thought prayer. Transmitting thoughts in Jesus.

But there is something if we understand carefully can explain some mysteries even in the natural realm. In the natural realm people have realized that there are twins. If people who are twins, there are something that can be explained, something that cannot be explained. There is an example of two twins and their names are Tony and Roger. Tony and Roger were born and from the time they were born, they were separated. They were twenty-four years old. Identical twins who had been separated at birth and reared far apart. No two people can be more alike than this identical twin. There are two types of twins but here we are talking about identical twins. One day they met together. When Tony and Roger were born in 1938, their destitute parents could not support them and they were offered to an Italian couple named Malassi. Unfortunately, the couple could care for only one child, thus the twins were separated. The lucky one Tony grew up in a secular environment but in contrast Roger had dramatic early life. His life was full of insecurity. He was shunted among foster homes and orphanages. He did not walk until 18 months compared to 12 months for Tony. At age two, he was judged to be five months retarded in his development. He had difficulty combining words and was unable to do mathematical calculations. When he was four, his natural father's wife heard of his plight, took him in and continued to raise him up. Anyway they both grew separately and finally when they met each other at about twenty-four years of age, brought up differently but born of the same parents. As soon as the twins were reunited, comparisons were made. They certainly were physically alike right down to the same aching wisdom tooth but there were other unexpected and puzzling similarities. Not only do they used the same shaver, smoke the same cigarette, hold a pen in the same awkward way. They both also used the same brand of toothpaste, imported from Sweden. They entered the military service within 8 days of each other. They like the same sports. They enjoy performing before an audience. There were slight differences though because of their upbringing. Tony who had a more secured childhood had made him more adventurous. He was more extrovert. Whereas Roger was more introvert because of his upbringing. But there were other things that were uncanny similarities that scientists could not

explain.

Let me read about other twins and some of the similarities that they cannot explain. Although there is no proof that twins has ESP, there is evidence that many pairs communicate more closely and more mysteriously than normal siblings. This unusual sensitivity for each other thoughts and feelings, a kind of heighten empathy may account for some strange experiences twins had reported. One twin will occasionally feels the urge to call his brother. Usually he finds that his twin had wanted to call him. Some twins also say that they have felt each other's pain. One woman, whose identical twin was killed in a plane crash, reported feeling heat pain and then a black void at the time of the crash. How do you explain these things? Scientists had no explanation.

I have a theological explanation that I am bringing forth. Our brain works by electrical impulses that produce magnetism and all electrical impulses and magnetism produce electro magnetic waves. There is something there about twins because twins basically are biologically the same. Each one of us here has a slightly different chemical make up. The signs of our internal organs are slightly different and chemically are slightly different. But twins basically are same. Their genetic code is very similar and what happens is when they think certain pattern, we could measure the electrical impulses of the body using more powerful instrument kits that were recently invented. Every time when a person thinks, there are certain thought patterns and things that come forth. Not only in the conscious realm, which you know, that are spoken in words that are thought in the mind but their sub-conscious pattern that radiate invisible vibrations when another person has an exact similar kind of chemical make up or so make up. That thought pattern causes what I call a vibration in the other person. Just like two tuning forks, when two tuning forks of the exact pitch are placed at a certain distance, you hit one the other will move. So people with similar make up, especially twins are able to pick up in that way. It's at a very level that we cannot pick up at the moment. Now you don't believe that we are sensitive to magnetism, let me tell you that it's only been verified by science recently that sharks moves by electricity and are sensitive to electricity and magnetism. They are affected by electricity and magnetism. So the lower primates and animals do sense electricity and magnetism in ways that scientist could only imagine. They have even found one little cell that knows which direction is north, south, east and west. There was an experiment in one of my

research books that was conducted by scientists to see whether man has a natural magnetism. They blindfolded people and turned them round and round and asked them which direction is north. They were surprised that the results were quite comparative that although after some mistakes. That most of them could have an uncanny sense where north is. Now that is not in the area of our intellect at all. It is something lower than that. It is something more powerful than that.

Husband and wife who love each other or family members also have keenness in that. So that's why even for people who love each other, who know each other and they have been so united in their soul that when one thing happens to the other, the other knows. It's not telepathy. Telepathy is the reading of the mental thought but these are influences that are not in your intellect so it's not telepathy. Something you know you pick up but you can't explain it.

The whole world or even a group of people when they are thinking the same kind of thought pattern would produce certain type of electro magnetic patterns that can affect another person that is in the natural. This is why sometimes even radio broadcast and radio waves and television waves are different forms of electro magnetic waves in just different waves lengths. We could pick it up with something deeper than your conscious mind. This is why if you go to America, which is saturated with sins being broadcasted, there is something there at the lower level of the sub-conscious that is affecting people. In the far remote areas of New Zealand where radio reception is almost nil, there is not only a natural quietness, there is another quietness that could be perceived. Then I begin to realize why Christians needed to go on radio waves, TV waves, because we are also countering in that same realm the evil sub-conscious influence on people's lives. This is why America there is a place they called that Bible belt where most of the revivals take place.

Now that's no.2, the second type of noise. It is a sub-conscious noise. We need to be able to overcome those things. I do it in my way. We always place music in the house and the Word of God in the house. It produces a totally different atmosphere. You will notice it even if you go to a Christian house and they have been spending a lot of time in prayer, you don't have to say a word, when you go into the house, every one of your thought tends towards God. If you go to a pub or

any place of sin, if I don't tell you what it is, you step in; you will suddenly feel all the temptations that were there. What is that something? It is in a very deep subconscious. There is a necessity in our lives to pull away from these two types of noises and move into the depths of God in order to draw from the realm of God, realm of the spirit things that will strengthen our spirit, which is more powerful. If you notice, Jesus likes to draw away from people at the most important junctions in His life. During the most critical points in your life, when you need to make a big decision in your life, don't run from counselor to counselor. Go into solitude and you will find your answer there.

Turn with me to Luke 6: 12 *"Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God."*

He continued, He cried and He prayed to God. He must be alone. Which is why my friends, if you have learned solitude, your closest solitude is with a group of people, you will never know what it is to rise in greatness in God. To soar like an eagle beyond the richest of what others could comprehend.

In Jn. 6: 13-15, after the feeding of the five thousands only recorded in the gospel of John. It is not recorded in Matthew, Mark and Luke. It is only recorded in John. After the feeding of the five thousands Jesus sought solitude. You could imagine the many other times in the gospel when something happen that He sought solitude that are unrecorded. But here is the time that John happened to record it in verse 13, *"Therefore they gathered them up, all filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, this is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world. Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king."* What did He do? He quickly walked out of it to be alone with God. Why, because that's where you get your bearing and direction. All of us need our bearing and direction in life. So in verse 15 it says, *"Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone."*

You can be alone but not lonely. Great men and women of God need solitude to develop their strength in God. If you want to be great in God's kingdom, you learn to be a servant to serve, but you also learn solitude in God. You say how does it relate? Look at it carefully; you cannot really serve properly until you have a relationship with God. If you are not in relationship with God, your service and ministry is either for self or some other motives. But when you are in God your service is pure. You reach the height of your greatness and the greatest point in Jesus' life. If you look and study people, a lot of the people out there in the world, when they are about to make some decisions, they run to the wrong places and they make blunders. But if you want to make the right decision in your life, you seek to be alone with God. In the silence of your soul you find your resting place and you hear your spirit coming forth. Does Jesus love fellowship? Yes of course He does. But you need both. And of all the times in His life in the gospel of Luke when Jesus knew that He was about to be betrayed and He was to be crucified, where would He go? Not to friends, not to people. At the greatest point, when He was about to die on the cross in Luke 22, and there was a lot of noise taking place around Him in verse 24. There was also rivalry among them as to which of them should be considered the greatest. The disciples were excited because some of them had the Jewish concept that He was going to be an earthly king. They were arguing about who was to be the greatest next to Jesus the earthly king. They had all kinds of power ambitions in their mind and they cannot comprehend what He really came to do. There was so much noise around. And Jesus in verse 39, *"Coming out, He went to the Mount of Olives, as He was accustomed, and His disciples also followed Him."* Do you notice that; as was His custom, even in Jerusalem He always finds a place to pray. Do you have your secret place to pray? Where could you pour out your heart with God? Where could you seek solitude in God where no earthly beings come between you and God?

In John 18, we are told that Judas knew where He was. In the first few verses, it says it's because Jesus used to go to Kidron there to pray and Judas knew where He was because Judas used to go there to pray. My friends, when you have come back from a hard day's work, do you just go to your bed and slump on your bed? Or do you seek some solitude with God before you sleep? Do you know Jesus worked hard? There were times He hardly had time to eat. No matter how tired His physical body was He always needed to be alone with God before He let His physical body sleep. How many Christians seek to be alone with God? Do you know there are not many? Most of them can only survive in the crowd. They can

only survive with their cliques. That is why we don't have that kind of people on this earth to change the world. If we have one life like Jesus, if we have just one more person who lives like Jesus, he will change the world. The vast majority is living in mediocrity. There is not greatness, there is no spirit of Jesus, the Lion of Judah that roar and change the world. From time to time, this earth has seen men and women come by who were like that.

Paul was a man who seeks solitude. When he was born again, his ministry could not take off when he tried his best but God sent him back to his hometown. And for many unwritten years and unaccounted time, hours, days and weeks, he was left on the back part of silence. But when he came out, he rose to greatness and he changed and shook the world in his time. Why solitude? The world's thinking is different. They think small but when you touch God, your thoughts rise up. For man's thoughts are not like God's thoughts. God's thought are higher than our thoughts. But people, men and women who get alone with God, their thoughts began to soar. Their lives began to soar. Their spirits began to soar like an eagle and they come not thinking their own thoughts but they come out with the thoughts of God. When they speak forth those thoughts, they lead people with those directions; they cause other to soar into the heart of God to change the world. Jesus needed His solitude. In time of great suffering, most people ask for an arm to lean on, a heart from a loved one but Jesus asked for the heart of the Father and an embrace from the Father in His solitude.

In Luke chapter 22: 39 *"Coming out, He went to the Mount of Olives, as He was accustomed and His disciples also followed Him. When He came to the place, He said to them, pray that you may not enter into temptation."* And then He did a strange thing in verse 41, I mean you would have thought that when you need to face a spiritual battle, you will get your few intercessors together to be with you. Yes, by all means, to do all that is necessary and to get as much prayer as possible. But Jesus knew there was a realm that was only between Him and God. My friends, the church can help you, your friends can help you, your family can help you, but there is a place in your life, which is sacred and reserved only for God. But in so many Christians' lives, they don't have that part of their life, which is why they are not where God wants them to be.

Jesus in verse 41, “*And He was withdrawn from them about a stone’s throw,*” He had to be alone. When He was alone, “*He knelt down and He prayed, saying, Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.*” Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.” Three times He rose up to check on His disciples and He could have joined them after that but He got to get alone and pray.

Are you afraid to be alone? That fear needs to be cast out. It is not from God. Neither is it a natural human fear. It is the fallen nature of fear because God made man for Himself, for His own bosom. Renewed men are different.

Why must we be alone in God? No.1 like in Luke 6, there are things that God wants to reveal to you. That is your destiny. It’s nobody else’s business but yours. A part of your destiny has to do with them but there is a part that is specially reserved for you. That it can only be revealed when you are alone. Firstly, this solitude is for God’s special revelation to you. In Luke 6, after He was alone He came down, and He chose His twelve disciples. He knew whom to choose. Where did He get that? It’s from God. He needs to get alone so that He could hear God. He could receive the revelation God wants Him to receive. Moses never received his call until he turned aside and went alone to seek after that bush. You know why Elijah was discouraged? He had been with the people so long that he needed to be alone and God sent him all to be alone. In the Mount Horeb, God spoke to him in a still small voice. The word *still* means peaceful. The word *small* means gentle and quiet. He could hear God, and when he came down from the Mount Horeb he was no more discouraged because he knew his destiny. Why must we be alone? Because you will only discover your destiny when you are alone. Too many people are living the destinies of other people. There are many sons and daughters who are doing things just to please their fathers. Nothing wrong with that, but if it robs them of their own destiny, then it becomes wrong. Too many people are doing things for others but they are not fulfilling their destiny. Why must I be alone with God?

Secondly, to cut off ties from the wrong things that is happening. It’s a kind

of purification. It's a kind of separation that is necessary to live a holy life. It's for cleansing and purification because you will never be cleansed and purified unless you get alone and you hear whatever is in you that needs to be cleansed. As long as you are with people, you cannot really hear any noise on your inside. You need to get alone so that you got nobody else but yourself to deal with and face it. And that all the darkness and the woe from your own life will rise up like a dragon and you will have to slay those dragons in your life. What happens if you don't? It will affect your eternal destiny and reward in God. You will be saved if you are born again but it won't be effective. Slay the dragons in your life. Be daring to be alone to wrestle. What would you do today if you were left alone for three days and three nights? It's easy to say if you were left alone in a desert island where there is nothing, but if you were left alone with an opportunity to do every thing you want. What would you have done? The dragons that you have kept in your life will rise up and you are to slay them. So no.2 for cleansing and purification is necessary in our life.

No. 3 is the most important. It is to meet with God beyond the revelation beyond the cleansing. God wants to meet you face to face. God spoke to Moses and said, Moses don't let anyone else come up to that mountain, neither man nor beast if they do they will be killed because God wants to be alone with Moses. Why, although there are billions of Christian on this earth, yet Jesus loves you as if you are the only love in His life. You know what love is? Love needs a special place and time. Marvin Ford, my friend who went to heaven recently sent me his latest book, a revised version. He said that when he went to heaven and he saw Jesus, there on the throne of God before the crystals seat and Jesus was just looking at him. He said, "Lord, why of all the billions of people on the earth, how do you have all your attention for me?" Jesus said, "Son, there is enough of Me to go around." Jesus doesn't love you generally; He loves you like you are the only one who ever existed. And the only time you can experience that kind of love is when you are alone with God. You will know that He did answer your prayer because you prayed with somebody else, that He did answer your prayer because you have two other brothers and sisters as strong as you helping you. Then you will know that He is there with you because He loves you. And He is coming to you right at your level in your desire for Him.

Thirdly, in the book of John 3: 17 we are told that God loves us. Jesus prayed

that we may know the love of God as much as the Father loves Jesus. Think about how much the Father loves Jesus. He loves you as much as He loves Jesus and He has no opportunity to show it to you until you are alone with Him. In secret place of the Most High God there will I ascend in God. Thank you Jesus for that secret place. Do you have your secret place of the Most High God? And in that secret place you can say, I will say of the Lord, He is my rock, my fortress; in Him alone will I trust. He that dwelt in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. Are you in His shadow? He wants you to come under His shadow to be loved, to be cuddled, to be embraced by Him and Him alone.