

TIME FOR JESUS

Jesus awoke long before daybreak ... to pray.
Later ... the others ... said, everyone is asking for you.
But He replied, ... I will preach to them, too,
because that is why I came.

Mark 1:35-38

Although our daily quiet time with God gives us a special time for prayer and Bible study, bringing us a certain measure of refreshment and help, this is not enough! The morning watch must not be regarded as an end in itself! The overriding, prime objective is not simply the personal discipline, no matter how beneficial this may be.

The clear, focused objective of the morning quiet time is to secure the presence of Christ for the whole day. Meditation and prayer and the Word are secondary to this purpose of renewing the link for the day between Christ and you in the morning hour.

Concern for the day ahead with all its possible cares, pleasures, and temptations may seem to disturb the rest I have enjoyed in my quiet devotion. This is possible, but it will be no loss.

True Christianity aims at having the character of Christ formed in us. Then in our most ordinary activities and relationships with people, it will be second nature for us to act like Him. All this is possible because Christ Himself lives in us.

As the morning watch begins to have its effect on the day, the day will respond to that time spent with God. Fellowship with Christ will have new meaning and power.¹

¹ Andrew Murray, Teach Me To Pray