

# Luke 4:42

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when it was day, he departed and went into a desert place: and the people sought him, and came unto him, and stayed him, that he should not depart from them.

## Analysis

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**And when it was day, he departed and went into a desert place.** After the intensive evening ministry, Jesus sought solitude. The phrase *genomenēs de hēmeras* (γενομένης δὲ ἡμέρας, when day came) indicates early morning. He *exelthōn eporeueto eis erēmon topon* (ἐξελθὼν ἐπορεύθη εἰς ἔρημον τόπον, departing went into a desert place) for prayer and rest. Mark 1:35 specifies He prayed. Despite crowds' needs, Jesus maintained rhythm of ministry and withdrawal.

**And the people sought him, and came unto him, and stayed him, that he should not depart from them.** The crowd's response—*epezētoun auton* (ἐπεζήτησαν αὐτόν, were seeking him) and *katechon auton* (κατεῖχον αὐτόν, tried to detain him)—reveals their desire to monopolize Jesus' ministry. They wanted permanent residence in Capernaum. But Jesus came to preach the kingdom to all, not settle in one location. Popularity and people's demands must not derail divine mission.

## Historical Context

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Desert places near Capernaum provided solitude for prayer. Jesus consistently withdrew from crowds for communion with the Father (Luke 5:16, 6:12, 9:18, 11:1). This pattern demonstrates that even the incarnate Son needed time apart for prayer, modeling spiritual discipline for believers. The crowd's attempt to

detain Jesus reflects ancient patronage culture—communities wanted to claim successful teachers and healers as "their" resource. Jesus' refusal and insistence on broader ministry shows mission over popularity, obedience to the Father over human expectations. His example warns against allowing ministry success or people's demands to replace God's call.

## **Related Passages**

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## **Study Questions**

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1. What does Jesus' early morning withdrawal for prayer teach about the necessity of solitude and communion with God, even during intensive ministry?
2. How does Jesus' refusal to be detained by the crowd demonstrate proper priorities: divine mission over human expectations or popularity?
3. In what ways might success and people's demands tempt you to abandon God's broader call for more comfortable or popular options?

## Interlinear Text

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Γενομένης	δὲ	ἡμέρας	ἐξελθὼν	πορεύεσθαι	εἰς	ἔρημον	
when it was	And	day	he departed	and went	into	a desert	
G1096	G1161	G2250	G1831	G4198	G1519	G2048	
τόπον·	καὶ	οἱ	ὄχλοι	ἐζήτουν	αὐτῶν	καὶ ἦλθον	ἕως
place	and	G3588	the people	sought	him	and	came unto
G5117	G2532		G3793	G2212	G846	G2532	G2064 G2193
αὐτῶν	καὶ	κατεῖχον	αὐτῶν	τοῦ	μὴ	πορεύεσθαι	
him	and	stayed	him	G3588	that he should not	and went	
G846	G2532	G2722	G846		G3361	G4198	
ἀπ' αὐτῶν							
from	him						
G575	G846						

## Additional Cross-References

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**Luke 6:12** (Parallel theme): And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

**John 4:34** (Parallel theme): Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.