

# Luke 6:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

## Analysis

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Before choosing the twelve apostles, Jesus 'went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.' The Greek 'dianyktereō' (δινυκτερεόω, continue through the night) emphasizes extended, intensive prayer. Jesus consistently prayed before major decisions and events, modeling dependence on the Father. Choosing apostles—men who would lead the church—required divine wisdom. All-night prayer demonstrates the seriousness of apostolic selection and teaches that crucial decisions demand extended, focused communion with God.

## Historical Context

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Mountains provided solitude for prayer away from crowds. Jesus regularly retreated to isolated places for prayer (Luke 5:16, 9:18, 9:28). The twelve apostles would become foundation stones of the church (Ephesians 2:20), making their selection critically important. Jesus' prayer-saturated life contrasts with modern activism that prioritizes action over communion with God. First-century rabbis gathered disciples, but Jesus' apostolic selection followed intense prayer, showing these men were divinely chosen, not merely recruited.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. What does Jesus' all-night prayer before choosing apostles teach about seeking God's wisdom for important decisions?
2. How does Jesus' pattern of extended prayer challenge modern ministry that prioritizes activity over communion with God?

## Interlinear Text

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Ἐγένετο	δὲ	ἐν	ταῖς	ἡμέραις	ταύταις	ἐξηλθεν	εἰς
it came to pass	And	in	G3588	days	G3778	that he went out	into
G1096	G1161	G1722		G2250		G1831	G1519
τὸ	ὄρος	προσεύξασθαι	καὶ	ἡν	διανυκτερεύων	ἐν	
G3588	a mountain	to pray	and	G2258	continued all night	in	
	G3735	G4336	G2532		G1273		G1722
τῇ	προσευχῇ	τοῦ	θεοῦ				
G3588	prayer	G3588	to God				
	G4335		G2316				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Hebrews 5:7** (Prayer): Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;

**Mark 6:46** (Prayer): And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray.

**Mark 1:35** (Prayer): And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

**Colossians 4:2** (Prayer): Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;

**Matthew 6:6** (Prayer): But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

**Daniel 6:10** (Prayer): Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

**Psalms 22:2** (References God): O my God, I cry in the daytime, but thou hearest not; and in the night season, and am not silent.

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