

Mark 6:46

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray.

Analysis

And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray. After spectacular miracle and acclaim, Jesus withdrew to pray. This pattern (Mark 1:35; Luke 5:16) models proper response to ministry fruit—not self-congratulation but communion with God. Prayer sustained Jesus' ministry, maintained alignment with Father's will, and renewed strength. If sinless Christ required prayer, how much more do human ministers need constant communion with God?

Historical Context

Mountains held spiritual significance (Moses at Sinai, Elijah at Horeb, Transfiguration). Jewish practice included regular prayer times. Jesus' prayer after the feeding likely included thanksgiving and seeking guidance. The contrast between crowd's political enthusiasm and Jesus' prayerful solitude illustrates different kingdom priorities. Early church fathers emphasized sustained ministry requires sustained prayer.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What does this verse teach about Christ's nature and work?
2. How should this truth shape our daily discipleship?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἀποταξάμενος αὐτοῖς ἀπῆλθεν εἰς τὸ ὄρος
And **away** **them** **he departed** **into** ^{G3588} **a mountain**
G2532 G657 G846 G565 G1519 G3735

προσεύξασθαι
to pray
G4336

Additional Cross-References

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.

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.

Luke 6:12 (Prayer): 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.

Matthew 14:23 (Prayer): And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

1 Peter 2:21 (Parallel theme): For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: