

***It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.***  
If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

Primary passage: **Luke 4:40-43**

**14<sup>th</sup> Point of Historical Chronology: The Lord visits Peter in Bethsaida after demonstrating His authority over the angelic realm.**

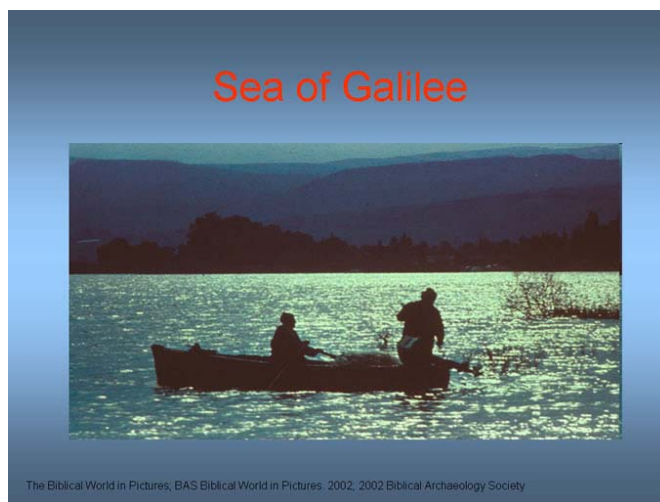


The area of Capernaum and Bethsaida.

*In review –*

In vv. 40-41 Jesus demonstrated His authority over the angelic realm.

- Jesus demonstrated His authority over sickness.
- After an entire day of casting out demons and healing the sick, the *humanity* of Christ needs rest.



**While the humanity of Christ rests, Peter, a professional fisherman, launches his fishing boats [at night] on the Sea of Galilee.**

42 When day came, Jesus left and went to a secluded place;

Why did He pray? Because. . .

**Prayer is an attitude of dependence!**

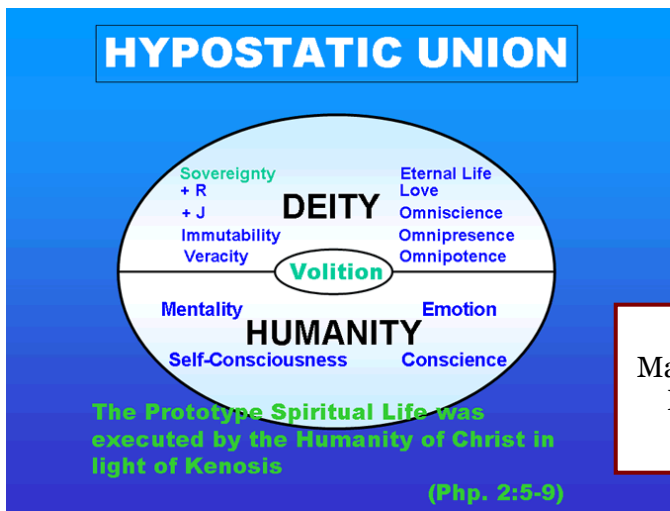
**Luke 5:16**

16 But Jesus Himself would often slip away. . .

Corrected translation - *But Jesus Himself was withdrawing.*

. . . to the wilderness and pray [προσεύχομαι *praying*].

**Prayer is communication with our Father in heaven.**



Does **DEITY** need to pray? NO!  
Omnipotence  
Omniscience  
Sovereignty  
These attributes don't need prayer.

Does **HUMANITY** need to pray? YES!  
Man cannot accomplish everything he sets out to do.  
Man must often enlist the help of someone else!  
Man is limited in his capacity.

Inquiring of the Lord will save wear and tear on your life!

**POD - Jesus Christ withdrew to pray in secluded places in order to know where the Father wanted Him to go and what the Father wanted Him to do.**

**POD - The attitude of Jesus Christ toward the will of His Father [will of God] expressed itself in prayer.**

**POD - Prayer is the expression of a believer who is truly malleable to the will of God and dependent upon God to fulfill that will.**

\*Example of **Jonah**

**POD - The malleable believer seeks the will of God through prayer and asks Him for the required logistics to fulfill that will.**

**What Logistics?**  
Wisdom  
Strength  
Guidance and direction

**Matthew 14:13**

13 Now when Jesus heard He **withdrew** from there in a boat to a **secluded** place by Himself. . .

- Hearing of the death of John the Herald had an impact on the Lord.
- It grieved Him.
- He withdrew to pray – to converse with His heavenly Father about it.

**POD - When things don't turn out the way we anticipate, it is time to seek further direction from the Lord in prayer.**

When we seek the Lord's direction in prayer, in light of our expectations not being fulfilled, it prevents *thoughtless speculation* about the will of God.

<sup>23</sup> After He had sent the crowds away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray; and when it was evening, He was there alone.

- Prayer preceded everything the Lord did.

**POD - The malleable believer habitually asks the Lord for wisdom in what He should do and where He should go.**

**POD - Prayer is one aspect of walking in dependence upon the Lord.**

- Are you depending on the Lord to provide what is required to do what He wants you to do? To go where He wants you to go?

**POD - Prayer must precede all the Lord would have us do because it enlists God's help.**

**How does this apply to us?**

We must follow the example our Savior set for us as the author and perfecter of the spiritual life.

If He was habitually praying for direction, how much more should we?

Prayer is an expression of our malleability and dependence.

**James 1:5**

<sup>5</sup> But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

**POD - The malleable believer habitually asks the Lord for wisdom in what He should do and where He should go.**

**Luke 4:42**

<sup>42</sup> When day came, Jesus left and went to a secluded place; and the crowds were searching for Him,

- **χλος** – “Large crowd or multitude”

“Were searching”

- **πιζητέω** - The people “were searching” for Him with great desire.

... and came to Him and tried to keep Him from going away from them.

<sup>43</sup> **But** He said to them, “**I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, for (because) I was sent for this purpose.**”

- *I was sent* - ποστέλλω – “To be sent on a mission”

**Despite the success, the positive volition, and the popularity of His ministry, the Lord knows the Father wants Him to go to other cities.**

<sup>42</sup> When day came, Jesus left and went to a secluded place. . .

**POD - Prayer must precede ALL that we undertake in life to insure we are doing what God wants us to do.**

*Success may be pouring down the grace pipeline of your life. Your cup may be running over, but that is not an indicator that you are doing what God wants you to do where God wants you to do it.*

**Remember POD - When things don't quite turn out the way we anticipate (after being directed to go, say or do), we must visit the throne room of grace for further direction.**

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*All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.*