

# Sermon Notes: Essentials, Week 3

**Title: FaceTime with Jesus**

**Text:** Mark 1:35

## Introduction

- Just like FaceTime connects us to the ones we love, we are called to have **FaceTime with Jesus**—direct, personal time in His presence.
- The third essential for following Jesus: **FaceTime with Him.**
- Review:
  - Week 1: *Fear of the Lord*
  - Week 2: *Faith in Jesus*
  - Week 3: *FaceTime with Jesus*

**Key Verse:** *“Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.”* — Mark 1:35

## I. FaceTime as a Spiritual Discipline

### 1. He Passionately Wanted This FaceTime

- After a full day of ministry (Mark 1:32–34), Jesus chose early morning prayer over extra sleep.
- He valued His time with the Father more than success, fame, rest, or comfort.

You do what you want to do—Jesus *wanted* to pray.

### 2. He Personally Prioritized This FaceTime

- *“Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up...”*
- He gave the Father the **first part of His day.**
- Intimacy doesn’t happen by accident—it’s scheduled.

“If FaceTime with God is going to be your priority, you have to plan it.”

### 3. He Intentionally Eliminated Distractions

- *“He left the house and went off to a solitary place.”*
- Jesus left noise, busyness, and people behind to be fully present.

- To meet God face-to-face, we must **step away** from screens, schedules, and distractions.

“You need a place—a quiet space for sacred time.”

## II. FaceTime as an Active Pursuit

### 1. Actively Seeking His Presence

- The Hebrew word for “face” often means “presence.”
- When we seek His face, we are seeking to be with Him.

“Prayer is not about something we do; it’s about Someone we’re with.”

#### Illustrations:

- **Mother Teresa:** “I don’t say anything; I just listen.”
- **Peasant farmer:** “I look at Him, He looks at me, and we are happy.”

Prayer is more about connection than communication—more about being than doing.

### 2. Actively Seeking His Preference

- Prayer is not about telling God our will but learning His.
- After prayer, Jesus had **clarity and direction**:  
*“Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come.”* (Mark 1:38)
- In prayer, we don’t change God’s plan—we align with it.

“Prayer is not so much about talking, but about listening.”

## III. Why FaceTime Is Essential

### You Become What You Contemplate

*“As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he.”* — Proverbs 23:7 (KJV)

- What we fix our minds on shapes who we become.
- If we fix our eyes on news, entertainment, or negativity, that’s what we reflect.
- If we fix our eyes on Jesus, we are **transformed into His image**.

*“Fix your eyes on Jesus.”* — Hebrews 12:2

*“We all... contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into His image.”* 2 Cor 3:18

## Conclusion: The Priestly Blessing

*“The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD turn His face toward you and give you peace.” — Numbers 6:24–26*

### **Key Takeaway:**

FaceTime with Jesus isn't a luxury; it's an **essential**—the daily practice that centers our hearts, aligns our will, and transforms our lives.