

JESUS AND PRAYER-FUELED MINISTRY

Luke 6:12–19

¹² Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. ¹³ And when it was day, He called His disciples to *Himself*; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles: ¹⁴ Simon, whom He also named Peter, and Andrew his brother; James and John; Philip and Bartholomew; ¹⁵ Matthew and Thomas; James the *son* of Alphaeus, and Simon called the Zealot; ¹⁶ Judas *the son* of James, and Judas Iscariot who also became a traitor.

¹⁷ And He came down with them and stood on a level place with a crowd of His disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem, and from the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear Him and be healed of their diseases, ¹⁸ as well as those who were tormented with unclean spirits. And they were healed. ¹⁹ And the whole multitude sought to touch Him, for power went out from Him and healed *them* all.

MAIN POINT

Christ modeled a successful ministry with a humble reliance upon prayer with the Father. A prayerful church is a successful church—because a prayerful church is a dependent church.

I. Earnest Prayer (v. 12)

A. Christ's Pattern

1. A Secluded Place—*went to a mountain*
2. Persistent Mindset—*spent the whole night in prayer to God*
3. Intentional—*went to...spent the whole night...*

B. Christ's Purpose

1. Communing with the Father
2. Demonstrating humility & reliance
3. Seeking wisdom

II. Compassionate Ministry (vv. 13–19)

A. Choosing Leaders (13–16)

1. Christ called His disciples and selected 12 to be apostles

- a) The Apostles are “sent on a mission”
 - b) The Apostles are divinely designated leaders
2. The Apostles
- a) Simon Peter — fisherman
 - b) Andrew — fisherman
 - c) James — fisherman
 - d) John — fisherman
 - e) Philip
 - f) Bartholomew (possible Nathanael; John 1:45)
 - g) Matthew (Levi) — tax collector
 - h) Thomas (Didymus; “The twin”)
 - i) James (son of Alphaeus)
 - j) Simon (the Zealot) — political Jewish nationalist
 - k) Judas (son of James; Thaddeus)
 - l) Judas Iscariot (the traitor) — only non-Galilean

B. Ministering to People (17–19)

- 1. Teaching with authority
- 2. Healing with compassion