



A DAY AWAY WITH GOD

*A resource for refreshing the
heart of the leader*

DATE:

LOCATION:

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Where to Begin

Thanks for committing time to seek the Lord. Please find a place that inspires you and plan to spend time in solitude. Just you, the Holy Spirit, a Bible, and this journal. We recommend that you leave your computer at home, turn your cell phone off and live disconnected for a while. The goal is to hear from God.

Make sure you note the month, day, year and location of your Day Away with God on the cover, in the space provided.

Clear the Cache

Because there are many voices that compete for our attention every day, all day, it is helpful to start a time away with God by identifying and clearing out as many of the things that are occupying our attention right now.

Take a few minutes to write down everything that is currently on your mind – things to do, concerns, people to see, etc. Don't hurry – list as many as possible – and be ruthless. Put your list here:

The Voice of God's Word

Spend some time reading Matthew 16:13-20 – slowly, thoughtfully and prayerfully.

We have provided the passage here in the ESV for easy reference. Use your own Bible if you prefer.

13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" 14 And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. 18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." 20 Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

Jesus asked His disciples "Who do you say that I am?" And then He said to Simon, "You are..." He described what kind of person Peter would be and how he would function in the Kingdom.

Jesus cares about who we think He is. He also cares about who we think we are. He wants us to have direction, guidance, and a clear sense of calling. We are the church, the called-out ones. Who we are and what He calls us to transcend the whatever circumstances we face. It's also important we understand the season we are in, as His servants.

Conversations with God

As you spend time with Him, ask Him the questions that follow and then listen...

Who are You, Lord? (Mt 16:15-17)

Which of Your attributes are important to me right now?

Who am I, Lord? (Mt 16:18)

Who have You created me to be? What kind of son or daughter do YOU intend me to be? (Our understanding of who He is will determine much of who He wants us to be as His sons and daughters.)

What kind of spouse do You want me to be?

What kind of parent do you want me to be?

What kind of leader do you want me to be?

What am I to do, Lord? (Mt 16:19)

Where are we going together?

What is the season of my call, Lord? (Mt 16:20)

The Benediction of God

Where do I sense your joy, your smile and blessing over me as I leave this time?

(Mt. 16:17)