

The Master's Master Plan

Mark 1:32-44

Jesus continually warned others not to tell anyone about Him; this runs counter to human nature

What?

We seek God's plan, rather than the plans of man

The crowds—

After the Sabbath was over people brought dozens of sick and demon-possessed people to Jesus to be healed, and the **real work of the Kingdom began**

We see that here as He refused to allow the demons to speak as they came out, and warned a leper that He healed not to spread the news

But the leper's widespread announcement of his healing resulted in more throngs of people coming to Jesus

So the crowds were composed of **genuine followers but also of thrill seekers, looking for a day's entertainment**

The disciples—

Mark wants us to know that Jesus' praying was a special seeking of God

Why? Because of the **temptation to stay and cater to the crowds, as articulated by Peter in** trying to take Jesus back

Jesus knew God's will was for Him to continue elsewhere

Faith Fact

God's call **summons us out of the kingdom of darkness into His Kingdom of light**

1 Thessalonians 2:12, ESV—Walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory

When God uses that proclamation in hearts to summon people into His Kingdom, it **always awakens faith**

The Big Question—Why did Jesus continually suppress the spread of news about Himself?

Jesus' preaching awakened faith in the hearts of His listeners

James 1:18, NET—By his sovereign plan he gave us birth through the message of truth

When someone told someone else about the amazing miracles Jesus did, that testimony did not awaken faith

It only awakened curiosity and thrill seeking

So What?

First, are you like the people in the crowds?

We need to be **like the ones who were genuinely seeking God**, following Jesus, not like the others who were just looking for a social outing or some entertainment

Are you like the disciples?

If we really believe that Jesus is Lord of the church, we must abandon the methods of business and government

It is more important than ever, that we **seek the mind of the Lord in prayer**, rather than relying on man-made methods

The last word—Solomon

Proverbs 19:21, ESV—Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand

Now What?

Make a new commitment to meeting with others for prayer