BINDER SERIES

Message #4 "Vineyards"
Scripture: Song of Songs 1:6
Pastor Phil Whetstone
August 1, 2021

"Do not stare at me because I am dark, because I am darkened by the sun. My mother's sons were angry with me and made me take care of the vineyards; my own vineyard I have neglected." Song of Songs 1:6

Jesus didn't just give a PERMISSION to be human. He gave the PRESCRIPTION on how to do it in a healthy manner.

"That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. 33 The whole town gathered at the door, 34 and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons.... 35 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. 36 Simon and his companions went to look for him, 37 and when they found him, they exclaimed: 'Everyone is looking for you!'" Mark 1:32-37

"Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake... when evening came, he said to his disciples, 'Let us go over to the other side.' 36 **Leaving the crowd behind**, they took him along," Mark 4: 1-2, 33-36

"....crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their sicknesses. 16 But Jesus often withdrew **to lonely places**and prayed." Luke 5:15-16

Why Did Jesus Withdraw?

Remember who He was.

Remember His calling.

Acknowledging His humanity.

Announce His **dependence on the Father**.

Regain His strength.

"Solitary places, leaving the crowd behind & lonely places isn't about escape, it's about RUTHLESSLY searching out the opportunity to abide in Christ and find in Him a peace, a presence, and a strength you simply could never find on your own." P Phil

JESUS' INVITATION

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.... 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing...7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." John 15:1-8