

DO YOU NEED TO BE ALONE?

1. Text: Jeremiah 15:15-17
2. Old songs: Only the lonely; I'm just a lonely boy; I'm all alone; Are you lonesome tonight? All make the point of how being alone is bad. Usually we think of it in a negative way and it is. Ecclesiastes 4:10 Woe to him who is alone when he falls. See Genesis 2:18.
3. There is a difference in being alone and loneliness.
4. But being alone can be a major asset. Why do we need to be alone?

I. **To Think And Prepare**

1. Great people have always spent much time alone. Leadership.
2. To face ourselves. Galatians 6:4 Examine yourselves and boast in yourself alone.
II Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves as to whether you're in the faith.
3. Pascal: "All humanity's problems stem from man's inability to sit quietly in a room alone."
4. Modern means of avoidance.

II. **To Battle Life's Issues**

1. Ultimately our choices are individual, personal, alone.
2. "The greatest battles we fight are in the silent chambers of our own souls."
3. Isaiah 49:21 "There I was, left alone."

III. **To Meditate And Pray**

1. Matthew 14:23 He went up on the mountain alone to pray.
2. Psalm 1:2 On His law he meditates day and night.

IV. **To Study God's Word**

1. Bible classes are great but not enough.
2. II Timothy 2:15 Spend diligent time with the word.

V. **To Value Friends And Fellowship**

1. When we're alone we can understand and appreciate how valuable dear friends and Christian fellowship can be.
2. I Corinthians 12:26-27 We are the body of Christ and members individually.
3. Romans 11:3 I alone am left, and they seek my life.

VI. **To Take Responsibility**

1. We can overstress the part other Christians must take in us being faithful and eventually saved eternally. It is important.
2. But each and every one of us are responsible individually for our salvation. Galatians 6:4 Each one should bear his own burden.

VII. **To Avoid Bad Company**

1. If the options are being alone or bad companions, being alone is the choice.
2. John 6:15 When Christ was being forced into something wrong, he departed to be alone.
3. I Corinthians 15:33 Evil company corrupts good habits.

VIII. **To Be With God**

1. We are never really alone.
2. Jeremiah 15:15-17 I sat alone because of your hand.
3. Lamentations 3:28 Let him sit alone and keep silent because God has laid it on him.

Conclusion: Alone in death (Mark 15:36)

A Sermon preached by Monte Ginnings
Northwest Church of Christ - Sunday Morning, May 28, 2006

