

“But Jesus replied, “We must go on to other towns as well, and I will preach to them, too. That is why I came.” Mark 1:38 NLT

## lectio // Mark 1:35-39

You get a sense from the gospel writers that Jesus was always on mission, always intentional. The brief mention of “getting away,” I believe is when he connected to Father God through the Holy Spirit for the things coming up that day. Maybe a game plan, or just a sense of urgency of where he was supposed to be. However, even though we sense an urgency in mission does not mean that Jesus was hurried, abrupt or looking over the shoulder of one demon filled, sick person to get to another. Jesus was paced in a rhythm of grace, and grace is not rushed nor rude. He tells Peter as both a reminder and a model. A reminder of what he is doing and a model for how Peter (and followers) should do life after he is gone. What does it look like to live with graceful urgency? An eagerness to be led, to see God’s plan unfolding at the snail’s pace of human time and existence. A delight of interruptions and providential moments. I have had hundreds of these and I am always amazed at the timing - which has to be perfect. If Robin and I hadn’t just “decided” to grab a quick bite at Wendy’s we would have never “ran” into a woman who was buying a frosty for her and a boyfriend but struggling because her mother was advancing in Alzheimer’s. A moment to pray over her and remind her of God’s care and watchful eye.

## oratio

Dad,  
So these moments alone with you in the morning are so refreshing. A time to listen, let you pace my hurried, worried life and hear from the Holy Spirit about the day or days ahead. To be eagerly anticipating providential moments, moments that matter. To be urgent and intentional about where but never rushed about who. Mark shows us how Jesus lived and it gives me clues as to how I should live as well.

## contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root