



Jesus & Solitude

By Rich Peterson



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WORLDVENTURE
20 Inverness Pl E
Englewood, CO 80112

WORLDVENTURE.com

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**Jesus lived in inner-directed
“heart solitude.” He also
frequently experienced
outward solitude.**



Beginning of His ministry, 40 days alone in the desert.

[Read Matthew 4:1-11](#)



**Before choosing His disciples,
spent the entire night alone in
the desert hills.**

In these days he went out
to the mountain to pray,
and all night he continued
in prayer to God.

Luke 6:12 ESV

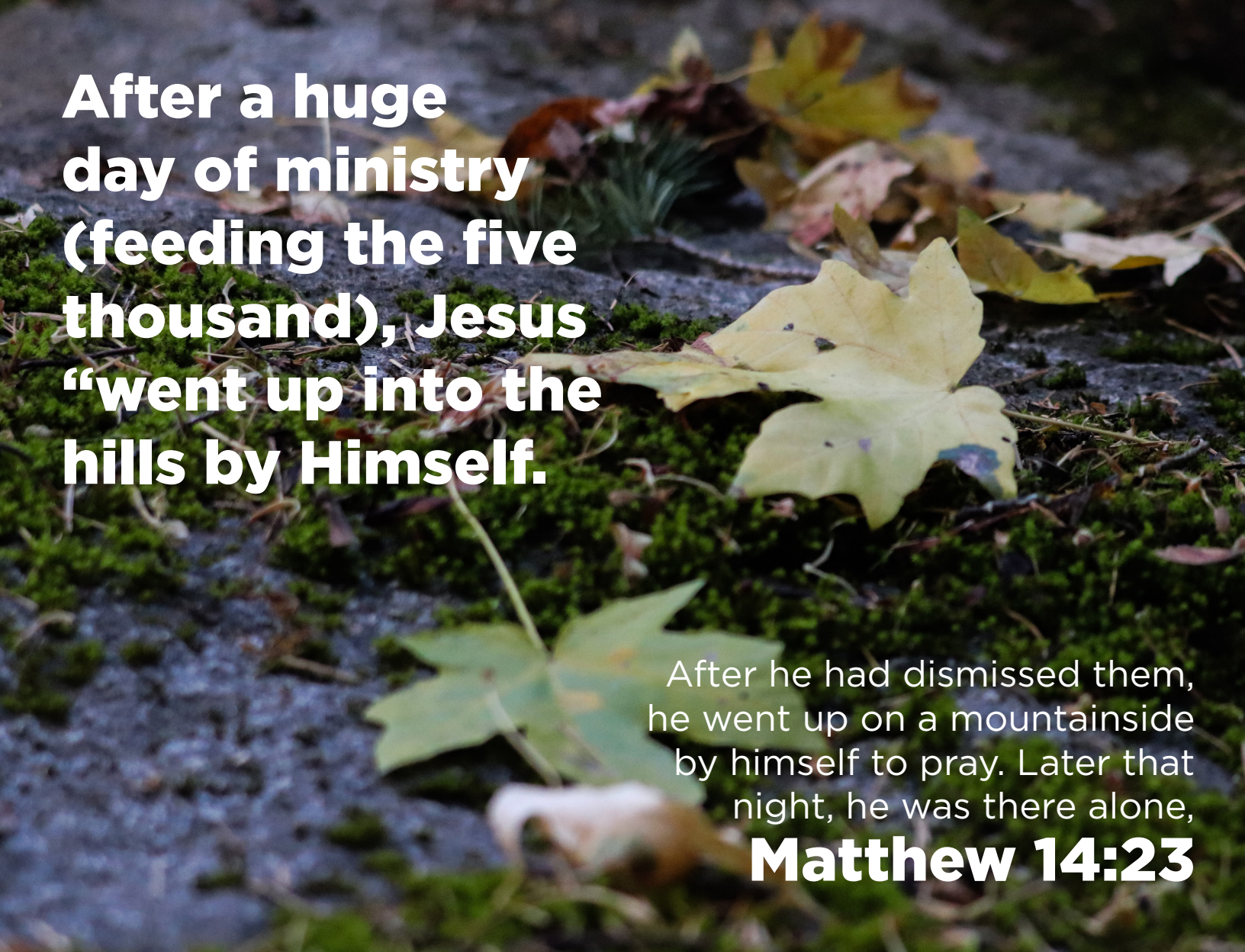




When He received bad news (of John the Baptist's death), He "withdrew from there in a boat to a lonely place apart..."

When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns.

Matthew 14:13



**After a huge
day of ministry
(feeding the five
thousand), Jesus
“went up into the
hills by Himself.**

After he had dismissed them,
he went up on a mountainside
by himself to pray. Later that
night, he was there alone,

Matthew 14:23



**Following a long
night of
ministry work –
“in the morning,
a great while
before the day,
He rose and went
out to a lonely
place...**

[Mark 1:35](#)

After the twelve returned from their “mission trip” of healing and preaching, Jesus instructed them, “Come away by yourselves to a lonely place...

[Mark 6:31](#)



A dramatic landscape featuring a forested hillside with a mix of green and yellow trees in the foreground. The background shows a rocky ridge under a sky with large, dark, and light clouds. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

**Following the healing of a leper
Jesus “withdrew to the wilderness
and prayed.”**

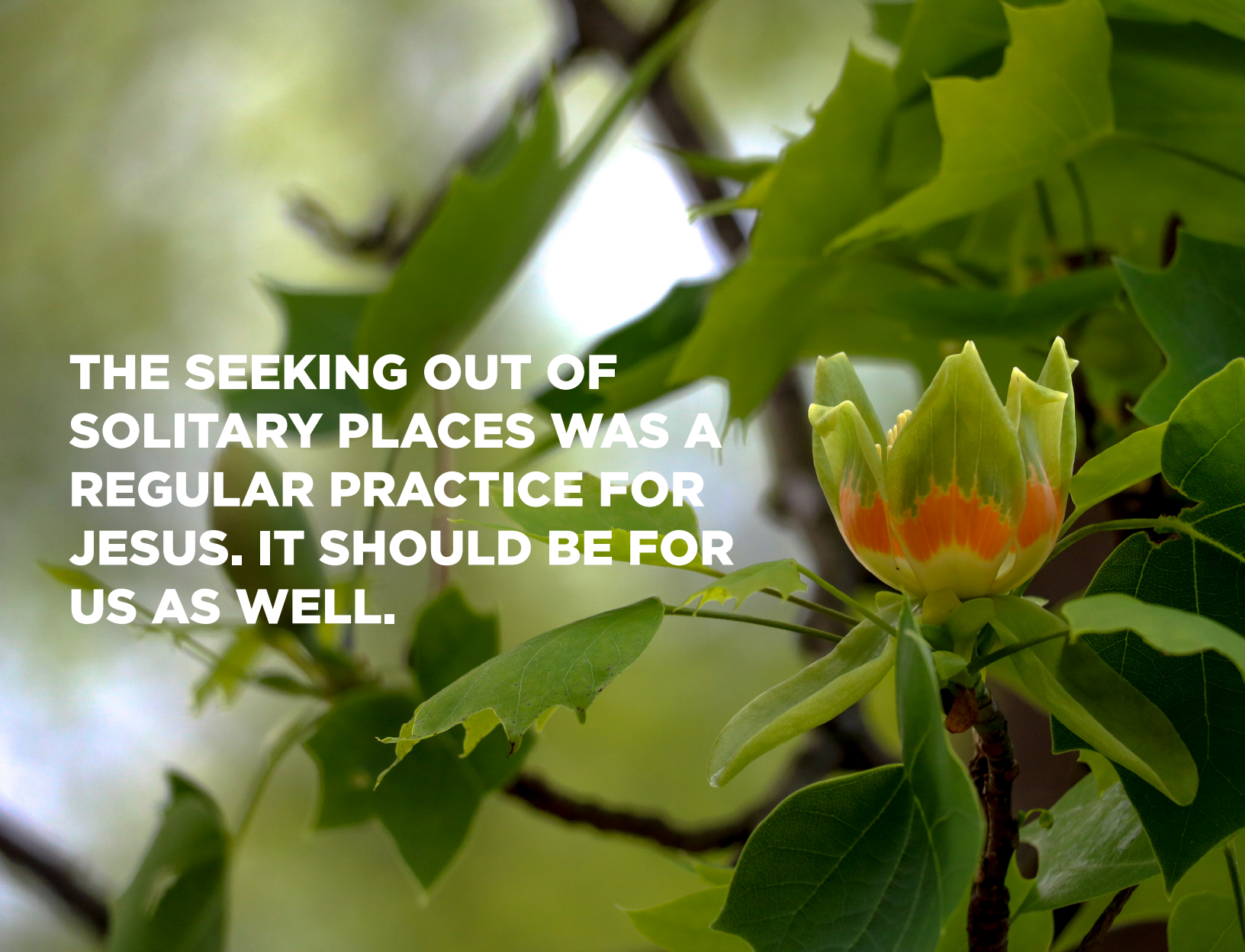
**But he would
withdraw to
desolate places
and pray.**

Luke 5:16

**As He prepared
for his highest and
most holy work,
Jesus sought the
solitude of the
garden of
Gethsemane.**

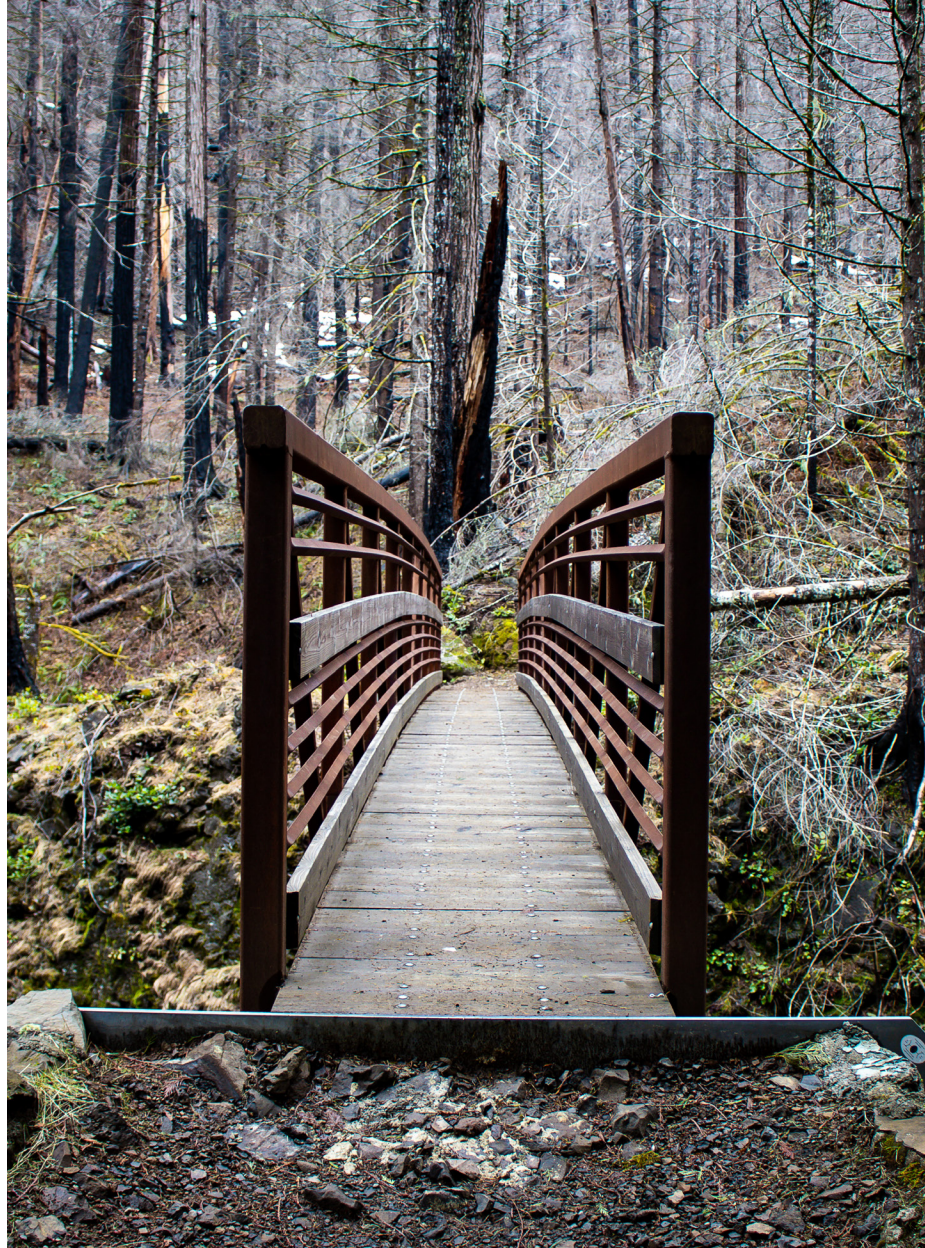
[Matthew 26:36-46](#)



A close-up photograph of a tulip flower in bloom, featuring green and orange petals. The flower is surrounded by lush green leaves, some of which show signs of being eaten. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a garden or forest setting. The lighting is natural, highlighting the textures of the petals and leaves.

**THE SEEKING OUT OF
SOLITARY PLACES WAS A
REGULAR PRACTICE FOR
JESUS. IT SHOULD BE FOR
US AS WELL.**

**What is the
difference
between
loneliness and
solitude?**





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