

## People Press in on Jesus -- He Knows When to Say Yes and When to Say No (Luke 4:38-44)

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**Guidelines:** Protect confidentiality and follow the leader's prompts

### **Lectio Divina Rhythms/Process (Repeat three times):**

- (a) Read the Scripture passage ("Lectio")
- (b) Reflect on the focus question below ("Meditatio")
- (c) Respond in quiet prayer/journaling ("Oratio")
- (d) Rest in God's invitation for you then pray/share out loud if you want ("Contemplatio")

**Introduction:** Jesus has been teaching the people in the synagogue at Capernaum. There he delivered a man of an evil spirit. Then he went to Simon's home to relax (it was a Sabbath day). Simon's mother-in-law was sick and so Jesus healed her. At sunset many sick people came to Jesus and he healed them. Then before dawn a crowd of needy people were again looking for Jesus but he had gone off into solitude to pray. When they found him they tried to make him stay with them -- they needed his teaching and healing ministry! But Jesus had been talking with the Father and he said it was time for him to move on to other towns.

**Opening Prayer:** "Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' be 'No.'" (Matthew 5:37).

### **Read Scripture: Luke 4:38-44 (NIV84)**

38 Jesus left the synagogue and went to the home of Simon. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her. 39 So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and began to wait on them.

40 When the sun was setting, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them. 41 Moreover, demons came out of many people, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew he was the Christ.

42 At daybreak Jesus went out to a solitary place. The people were looking for him and when they came to where he was, they tried to keep him from leaving them. 43 But he said, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent." 44 And he kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** What is one word or phrase the Holy Spirit impresses on you? Meditate on that.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Enter into the Scripture passage. What do you feel? What specific situation in your life today relates? Write down a prayer or pray quietly.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Reading:** What is God's personal invitation for you from the Scripture? You can write down what God may be saying to you or a prayer of thanks. Or rest quietly in God.