

*"Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them. Luke 2:49-50 (NIV)*

## **Your Business**

I want to be about your business. I want to know and do you will. I want to accomplish your purposes and fulfill your plans. I don't want to go about my own business. I don't want to live out my own plan. To do so, would be misspending my life. Of that, I have no doubt. Of that, I am absolutely certain. **That's good for you to know.**

**How will you come to know and do my will? How will you have any idea of what my purpose and plan is for your life? How will you know if you are being about my business? How will you know the difference between your plan and my plan?**

Those are all very good questions. They only have one answer. **What's that?** If I want to be about your business, I must come and meet with you in prayer. I must ask you to help me to know and do your will. I must ask you to show me your purpose and plans for my life. **That's true.**

**Will I unfold my purpose and plan for your life all at once?** Certainly not. **Why not?** You want me to live in an intimate relationship with you. If you unfolded your entire purpose and plan for my life, I might come to think that I could, "take it from here." I might come to think that I only need to occasionally check back in with you. **That would mistake.** Yes, it would. **Tell me why.** It would never work. I would never stay on course. I have not been made to live a life that is separate and independent with you. Your thoughts and ways are so much higher than mine. I will continue to need your wisdom and direction every day as I love, follow and serve you. Most importantly, it is your purpose and plan that I live in an intimate relationship with you. Everything else in life is secondary to that. **That's true.**

**What do you already know about being about my business?** Meeting with you in prayer is being about your business. Being about your business is not different or separate from meeting with you in prayer. **How so?** You will accomplish your purposes and fulfill your plans in and through prayer. Prayer is work. It is not like I will stop praying and start working. You will give me prayers to pray. **Yes, I will.** Your work will be accomplished through prayer. **Yes, it will.**

**What steps will you take to be about my business?** Every day, I will meet with you in prayer. I will talk with you. I will listen to you. I will pray the prayers that you give me to pray. I will ask for your guidance. I will follow your direction. I will go where you guide me. I will do what you ask of me. Then I will be about your business. **Yes, you will.**

*Heavenly Father, I certainly need to be meeting with you in prayer. Meeting with you in prayer is the desire of my heart. Fan that flame of desire. Draw me closer to you. Show me how I can be about your business. Give my life your purpose and direction. Amen*

**Prayer***I Had To Be*

"Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

NIV

Luke 2:49-50

**Prayer***I Must Be*

And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them.

ESV

Luke 2:49-50

**Prayer***I Must Be*

"But why did you need to search?" he asked. "Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they didn't understand what he meant.

NLT

Luke 2:49-50

**Prayer***I Must Be*

And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them.

NKJV

Luke 2:49-50

**Prayer***I Must Be*

He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them.

NRSV

Luke 2:49-50

**Prayer***I Had To Be*

He said, "Why were you looking for me? Didn't you know that I had to be here, dealing with the things of my Father?" But they had no idea what he was talking about.

MSG

Luke 2:49-50

**Prayer***It Is Necessary*

And He said to them, How is it that you had to look for Me? Did you not see *and* know that it is necessary [as a duty] for Me to be in My Father's house *and* [occupied] about My Father's business? But they did not comprehend what He was saying to them.

AMP

Luke 2:49-50

**Prayer***I Would Be*

"But why did you need to search?" he asked. "Didn't you realize that I would be here at the Temple, in my Father's House?" But they didn't understand what he meant.

TLB

Luke 2:49-50

**Prayer***I Had To Be*

And He said to them, "Why is it that you were looking for Me? Did you not know that I had to be in My Father's *house*?" But they did not understand the statement which He had made to them.

NASB

Luke 2:49-50

**Prayer***I Must Be*

Jesus said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand the meaning of what he said.

NCV

Luke 2:49-50

# I Had To Be

Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Prayer** – Luke 2:49-50

**In Context:** *Read Luke 2*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

"Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them. Luke 2:49-50 (NIV)

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

"Why were | you searching | for me?" | he asked. | "Didn't you know | I had | to be | in my | Father's house?" | But they | did not | understand | what he | was saying | to them. Luke 2:49-50 (NIV)

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**Praying The Scripture:**

***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Heavenly Father, I certainly need to be meeting with you in prayer. Meeting with you in prayer is the desire of my heart. Fan that flame of desire. Draw me closer to you. Show me how I can be about your business. Give my life your purpose and direction. Amen

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**What It Means:**

***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How are you making it your pattern to meet daily in prayer with your Heavenly Father?

What has your Heavenly Father been showing you as you have met with Him in prayer?

**How has your Heavenly Father given purpose and direction to your life as you have met with Him in prayer?**

What course corrections has your Heavenly Father made in your life as you have met with Him in prayer?

How have you been encouraged and strengthened as you have met in prayer with your Heavenly Father?

**When has your life lost direction because you have not been meeting in prayer with your Heavenly Father?**

**What steps would you like to take to establish meeting in prayer with your Heavenly Father?**

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**Living It Out:**

***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Meet in prayer with your Heavenly Father so you will know how to be about His business.

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**Seeing It Happen:**

***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that your Heavenly Father will help you to know and do His business as you meet with Him in prayer.

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**Get Ready To Share:**

***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how your Heavenly Father is giving your life purpose and direction.

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**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

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**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you meet with your Heavenly Father in prayer so you can be about His business.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Heavenly Father, I will meet with you in prayer so I can be about your business.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Heavenly Father, what will you show me about being about your business as I meet with you in prayer?*

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