



Feb. 4, 2018 Mk. 1: 29-39 & Job 7: 1-4, 6-7

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Link to [Beck](#) (paywall) other [Beck](#)

Stone, Naomi. [How is Love Calling Us?](#)

Rolheiser, Fr. Ron. [The Right to Call Someone to a Vocation](#)

[Monastery Sunday Homilies](#)

[U tube link](#)

#### **ENTERING THE SCENE:**

“This is why I have come”. Scholars, skeptics, and believers down through the ages have pondered this statement. Each comes up with an explanation that suits their reading of the different texts. Mark’s gospel commonly thought to be the first written, shows Jesus to be a man with a mission. He knows what he knows, and his goal is to share that knowledge of the Father with as many people as possible in the least amount of time. He also knows people with burdens have closed eyes and ears to anything that does not promise relief from the burden. So he dispatches the problem, almost seemingly annoyed at times at the distraction, so that he can proceed with his mission. As we enter into the demanding pace of this gospel with its fondness for words like immediately, we are challenged to also find the answer to the same question. Why have I come? What is it that only you can bring to the rest of us that is good news about the Father?

#### **Mk. 1:29-39**

29 As soon as they left the **synagogue**, they went with **James** and **John** to the home of **Simon** and **Andrew**. 30 **Simon's mother-in-law** was in bed with a **fever**, and they told Jesus about her. 31 So he went to her, took her hand and **helped** her up. The **fever** left her and she began to **wait** on them. 32 That **evening** after **sunset** the people brought to Jesus all the **sick** and **demon-possessed**. 33 The **whole town** gathered at the door, 34 and Jesus **healed** many who had various **diseases**. He also **drove** out many **demons**, but he would not let the **demons** speak because they **knew** who he was. 35 Very early in the **morning**, while it was still **dark**, Jesus got up, **left** the house and **went** off to a **solitary place**, where he **prayed**. 36 Simon and his companions **went** to look for him, 37 and when they found him, they **exclaimed**: "**Everyone** is **looking** for you!" 38 Jesus replied, "Let us go **somewhere else**--to the nearby villages--so I can **preach** there also. That is **why I have come**." 39 So he **traveled** throughout Galilee, **preaching** in their **synagogues** and **driving out demons**.

**DISCUSSION QUESTION:** Each of us is a unique creation of the Father with a special way to reveal the Father’s love to others. How do you do this best?

**PRAYER:** Jesus, you went off to pray after experiencing the power of God flowing through you as people were cured of illness and obsessions. It is as if you needed to go to your Father to understand what that was all about, and what you were to do next. You came out of that time of prayer with a clear idea of what your role was to be. It was to proclaim the Father’s unconditional love. First of all, free me from anything that gets in the way of being a witness to that love. Then give me the insight and courage to be that love for others. Amen.