Why We Need a Hidden Life with the Lord Jesus

I. As Christians, we need to develop a deep spiritual root system in the Lord.

A. We've been rooted in Christ

Col. 2:7 – "Having been **rooted** and **being built up in Him**, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving."

Footnote 1 from the New Testament Recovery Version: "Like plants, we are living organisms. As such, we have been rooted in Christ, our soil, our earth, that we may absorb all His riches as nourishment. These riches become the element and substance with which we grow and are built up. To be rooted is for the growth in life. This rooting has been completed already. To be built up is for the building of the Body of Christ. This is still going on. Both these matters are in Christ"

B. The benefits of having a hidden life with the Lord

Basic Elements of the Christian Life, vol. 2, Watchman Nee

Psalm 42:7: "Deep calls unto deep."

"As we extend ourselves deeper and take root downward, we will discover that 'deep calls deep.' When we can bring forth riches from the depths of our inner life, we will find that other lives will be deeply affected. The minute our inner being is touched, others will receive help and be enlightened. They will know that there is something beyond their knowledge. When deep touches deep, deep will respond to deep. If our life has no depth, our superficial work will only affect other life superficially. We repeat yet again—only 'deep calls unto deep."

C. The Lord Jesus is our pattern

Luke 15:16 - "But He Himself **often** withdrew in the wilderness and prayed."

Mark 1:35 - "And rising very early in the morning, while it was still night, He went out and went away to a deserted place, and there He prayed."

Footnote 1 from the New Testament Recovery Version: "To fellowship with God, seeking God's will and pleasure for His gospel service. The Slave-Savior performed the evangelistic service not by Himself, independent of God and according to His own will, but according to God's will and pleasure by being one with God to fulfill His purpose."

II. Three ways to develop a strong root system.

A. Prayer

Matt. 6:6 - "But you, when you pray, enter into your private room, and shut your door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you."

B. Reading the Bible

Matt. 4:4 - "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out through the mouth of God."

C. Spending time with the Lord in the morning.