(7) **First Preaching Tour of Galilee (Matt. 4:23–25; Mk. 1:35–39; Luke 4:42–44)**

1. Jesus juggled a number of responsibilities.
   a. Temporal family responsibilities (Mt. 4:13; Mk. 2:1; Jn. 2:12).
   b. Disciple/Apostle training ministry (Mt. 4:19).
   c. Public teaching ministry (Mt. 4:23; Mk. 1:38–39; Lk. 4:43).
   d. Personal prayer ministry (Mk. 1:35).

2. Prayer to His Father was the most crucial element to starting His day.
   a. Jesus made personal prayer a habit (Lk. 5:16). Pres.act.ptc. ὑποχωρέω hupochôreō ἤτοι: to withdraw (Lk. 5:16; 9:10).
   b. Jesus needed time away from the crowds, and time away from the disciples (Mt. 14:23; Mk. 6:46).
   c. Even in the presence of His disciples, Jesus wrestled with personal prayers for their edification (Lk. 9:18).
   d. Prayer must be taught by instruction & imitation (Lk. 11:1).
   e. Intercessory prayer is vital in the angelic conflict (Lk. 22:32).
   f. Petitionary prayer is vital in obeying the Will of God (Mt. 26:39).
   g. The privilege of prayer is the greatest feature of our priesthood in Christ (Heb. 5:7).

3. The Capernaum crowds tried to keep Jesus local, but He had an itinerate ministry to pursue (Lk. 4:42; Mk. 1:37, 38).

4. The preaching ministry was to announce the Gospel of the Kingdom (Matt. 4:23).
   a. The Kingdom of God (Lk. 4:43). The Gospel of God is the good news that the Kingdom of God is at hand (Mk. 1:14, 15).
   b. The coming Kingdom is the primary message of eschatology (Dan. 2:44).
   c. The Word of the Kingdom is the Gospel of Salvation with a Kingdom of Heaven focus (Matt. 13:11, 19).
   d. Preaching the Kingdom of God is an evangelism & edification message throughout the Church Age (Acts 20:25; 28:31).
   e. The Gospel of the Kingdom will be the primary evangelism message of the Great Tribulation (Matt. 24:14).

5. This event also featured miscellaneous demon expulsions (Matt. 4:24; Mk. 1:39).