

Abstract

This thesis paper is a study of the Christian disciplines of silence and solitude in the belief that it is an essential foundational discipline for all Christian leaders. The Introduction seeks to lay the premise that Christian leaders are primarily to lead others to Christlikeness by pursuing Christlikeness themselves first and foremost. In Chapter One, the study begins with an examination of Jesus' devotional life as recorded in the Gospels. Next in Chapter Two, a selective survey is done of the various practices of silence and solitude as found in Church history since the NT era. Moving on in Chapter Three, the typical profile of the Malaysian TRAC Pastor is first presented followed by the results of a survey on the prevailing practices of TRAC Pastors today. The findings of all the above is then drawn together to present a possible approach to silence and solitude for the Pastor living in the twenty first century. The conclusion then is that Pastors must seek to practice the discipline of silence and solitude with the goal of loving God with all of their being, which will overflow into loving our neighbours as well; drawing ever closer and deeper into God with each day--- until the day of eternity.