

J O H N

servant king
the gospel of mark

◆ week 5: jesus the exorcist - mark 5:1-20

They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes. 2 When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an impure spirit came from the tombs to meet him. 3 This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain. 4 For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him. 5 Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.

6 When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him. 7 He shouted at the top of his voice, “What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In God’s name don’t torture me!” 8 For Jesus had said to him, “Come out of this man, you impure spirit!”

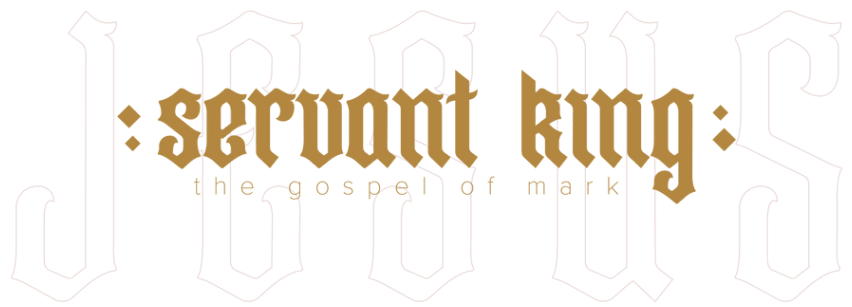
9 Then Jesus asked him, “What is your name?”

“My name is Legion,” he replied, “for we are many.” 10 And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area.

11 A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. 12 The demons begged Jesus, “Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them.” 13 He gave them permission, and the impure spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

14 Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. 15 When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. 16 Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demon-possessed man—and told about the pigs as well. 17 Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region.

18 As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. 19 Jesus did not let him, but said, “Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” 20 So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.



✦ personal study sheet

DIRECTIONS: Use the questions below to spend time in Scripture, dig deeper into the weekly sermon message, and to worship and pray. Each day, begin with prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you learn and apply what you read. Then, read **Mark 5:1-20** and answer the day's questions.

◆ DAY 1: FOCUS ON PEOPLE AND THEIR NATURAL, WORLDLY TENDENCIES

- Describe the man with the impure spirit at the beginning of the event (Verses 2-10). Why was he undesirable? Why did he live secluded and alone? _____

- People's reactions:

- a. How do you think those who tended the pigs reacted when they saw the pigs run down the bank into the lake? _____
- b. Why were the people in town afraid of Jesus? He just performed a miracle that saved a man. _____
- c. What other examples in the Gospels show interesting reactions to Christ's message or actions? _____

- Pastor Dave provided three main points in his message: The Reality of Evil, The Strategy of Evil, and The Defeat of Evil. How have worldly pursuits or secular books & movies distorted the truths mentioned in these three points? _____

◆ DAY 2: FOCUS GOD, JESUS, HIS PLAN AND EXAMPLE

- Did Jesus ask the demons their name or did he ask the man his name? Is it possible these demons once served Jesus in heaven at an earlier time? Why did the demons ask Jesus to expel them into a host (swine) and not just expel them out of the man? _____

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- In Mark 5:19, Jesus instructs the healed man to tell others what the Lord has done for him, but after another healing in Verse 43, Jesus told people not to let anyone know about the miracle. Why does Jesus instruct people to two separate actions? _____

◆ DAY 3: APPLICATION

- Jesus traveled to heal this man. Reflect on your reactions when you see people in need. Are you too busy to help people? Do you wait for them to come to you? Do you look for opportunities to help them? Are you prepared to help when the opportunity arises?

- Jesus helped this man regain his life and instructed him to tell others. How do we encourage or empower people to testify what God has done in their own lives?

- In Verse 18, the healed man begged to go with Jesus, but Jesus had other plans for him. Reflect on what the man had to face with his new mission. Are you willing to change your plans and to put yourself in challenging situations to do what God asks of you to do?

- In the end, the people were afraid and asked Jesus to leave. He could have healed people with other issues in the area. Instead of trying to convince them how much he could help their community, he left. What does Jesus' actions here say to you? _____

- What storm are you going through in your life now? Or what storm is someone close to you going through? How is God working through you and these situations? _____

◆ DAY 4: WORSHIP AND PRAYER

Listen to the song or read the words of the hymn **A Mighty Fortress is Our God** and **Psalm 105:1-5** in a time of worship and to pray.