

Sermon Notes:

Passage: Mark 5:1-20

overview of the past weeks

- Jesus was teaching and telling parables about the kingdom of God
- They sailed across the sea of Galilee to the eastern side and went through a storm that Jesus calmed

Jesus had a divine appointment with a very troubled person. It seems to me that it was something that God set up.

Last week we talked about the different storms that come into our lives.

1. due to choices (our sin)
2. due to living in a broken world
3. due to evil forces in the world intent on keeping us from God.

It is fascinating that this storm comes at Jesus just as he is about to encounter this demon possessed man.

Was the storm that Jesus went through Demonic in origin?

Was the enemy trying to prevent Jesus from reaching the other side knowing that He would encounter the Demon possessed man?

Sometimes the storms in life that we experience are demonic in origin and are there to keep us from doing or experiencing what God has for us.

All demonic/evil powers no matter how great are in subjection to Jesus

Everybody that saw this man cowered away in fear because of the scary demonic power of this man and yet immediately this man knelt before Jesus in submission.

Society avoided this troubled man, but Jesus headed straight for him. He did not avoid him. God values those who are flawed. He is oriented toward those whom society deems flawed and keeps at arms length.

Sometimes people are more afraid of the light than of darkness. When he was asked to leave he left. Jesus comes where he is welcomed.

Jesus calls even the newest follower to share in His ministry.

We don't necessarily need all sorts of training to start telling others about Jesus. God wants us to grow, to learn and to become more knowledgeable about Him, but that was never meant to be a prerequisite for telling others about him or even being effective in ministering to others.

Life Group Discussion

(feel free to use any or all of these questions)

Warm Up:

1. Have you ever had an experience or known someone that has experienced something that was evil, or could be described as demonic or satanic in nature?
2. What stood out to you about Sunday's Sermon? What was interesting? Confusing? Weird? Thought provoking?

Study & Discussion:

Read together: Mark 5:1-20

When we read a story like this it is easy to disconnect and not find it very relatable. At one point this demon possessed man was probably considered normal like you and me. What kind of circumstances do you think could have caused him to become like this?

In what ways do you think it is possible for people today in Canada to open themselves up to demonic possession?

What are some things you learn about Jesus and his character from this story?

Read together Acts 19:11-17

The sons of Sceva in this story felt that they had stumbled upon a method that was more effective than their own. What are some things they did not take into account?

In what ways do we at times try to copy methods, but end up missing out on the PERSON behind the method?

Application:

From either of these stories are there any other life applicable take aways that you can see?

Prayer:

1. Ask for individual prayer requests
2. Is there someone outside the group you would like prayer for?