

beyond your current **mind**



Part 7 - Breaking Systems That Break People

Sometimes Jesus' miracles are hard to interpret. What do demons and exorcisms have to do with us? Actually, as we continue to see the influence of evil in our world, these stories are just as relevant as ever!

Scripture: Mark 5:1-20

Discussion Questions

1. As you start your discussion, check in on one another since last week. Ask each other about their prayer requests. How has your week been on a scale of 1-10. What has made it better/worse than the previous week?
2. Read the story from Mark 5:1-20 together. Share some of your observations and discuss some of the following questions: What was the state of the man possessed by demons? Where do we see these kinds of problems and issues in people/our culture today?
3. Words and phrases like 'Legion' and 'herd of pigs' alert us to the fact that this demonic force is representative of Rome's violent and oppressive kingdom. Where do we see those kind of practices and motivations at work? What are some ways that the Kingdom of Rome and the Kingdom of God contrast one another? How can we make sure that we are participating in God's Kingdom instead of a modern-day version of the Kingdom of Rome?
4. What do you think of the reaction of the people? Why were they afraid? Why do you think they ask Jesus to leave? What do you think of the reaction of the man who was healed? Why do you think he wants to go with Jesus, and why do you think Jesus makes him stay?

Moving Forward

What are some of the lessons that we should learn from a story like this?