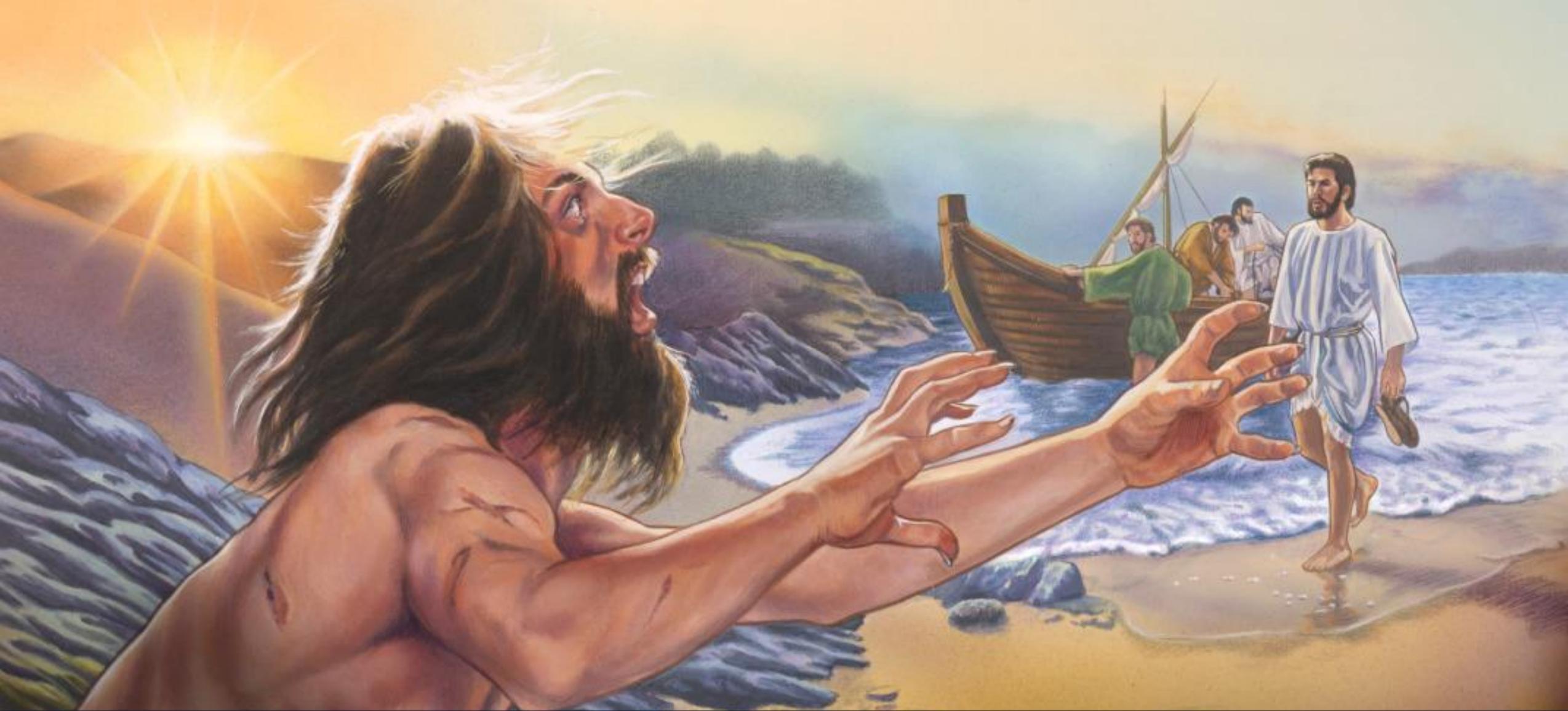


Have you ever been *labeled* before?



JESUS & THE DEMON POSSESSED MAN

“²⁶ They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across the lake from Galilee. ²⁷ When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he cried out

LUKE 8:26-31

and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, “What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don’t torture me!” ²⁹ For Jesus had commanded the impure spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under

LUKE 8:26-31

guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places. ³⁰ Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” “Legion,” he replied, because many demons had gone into him. ³¹ And they begged Jesus repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss.”

LUKE 8:26-31

What is your name?

QUESTION FROM JESUS

Jesus *loved* people in
spite of their past!

POINT

“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”



MAYA ANGELOU

It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. **Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.** ² The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus.

HE SERVED THE DISCIPLES!

³ Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴ so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. JOHN 13:1-5 MSG

HE SERVED THE DISCIPLES!

- Judas *betrayed* Jesus (Jn 13:1-5)
- Peter *denied* Jesus (Mt 26:74)
- Thomas *doubted* Jesus (Jn20:25)
- The 12 *deserted* Jesus (Mt26:56)

HE WASHED THEIR FEET ANYWAY!

¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. JOHN 15:12-15

HE CALLED THEM HIS FRIENDS!

Give some **loving** instead
of some **judging!**

PRACTICAL



April 3, 1965
**“If I Were
the Devil”**

¹⁰ I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. ¹¹ My brothers and

1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-12

sisters, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. ¹² What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ."

1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-12

Why do you think people in the church started to follow certain leaders?

QUESTION

We tend to align ourselves
with people who think like us
or have the same gift set as us.

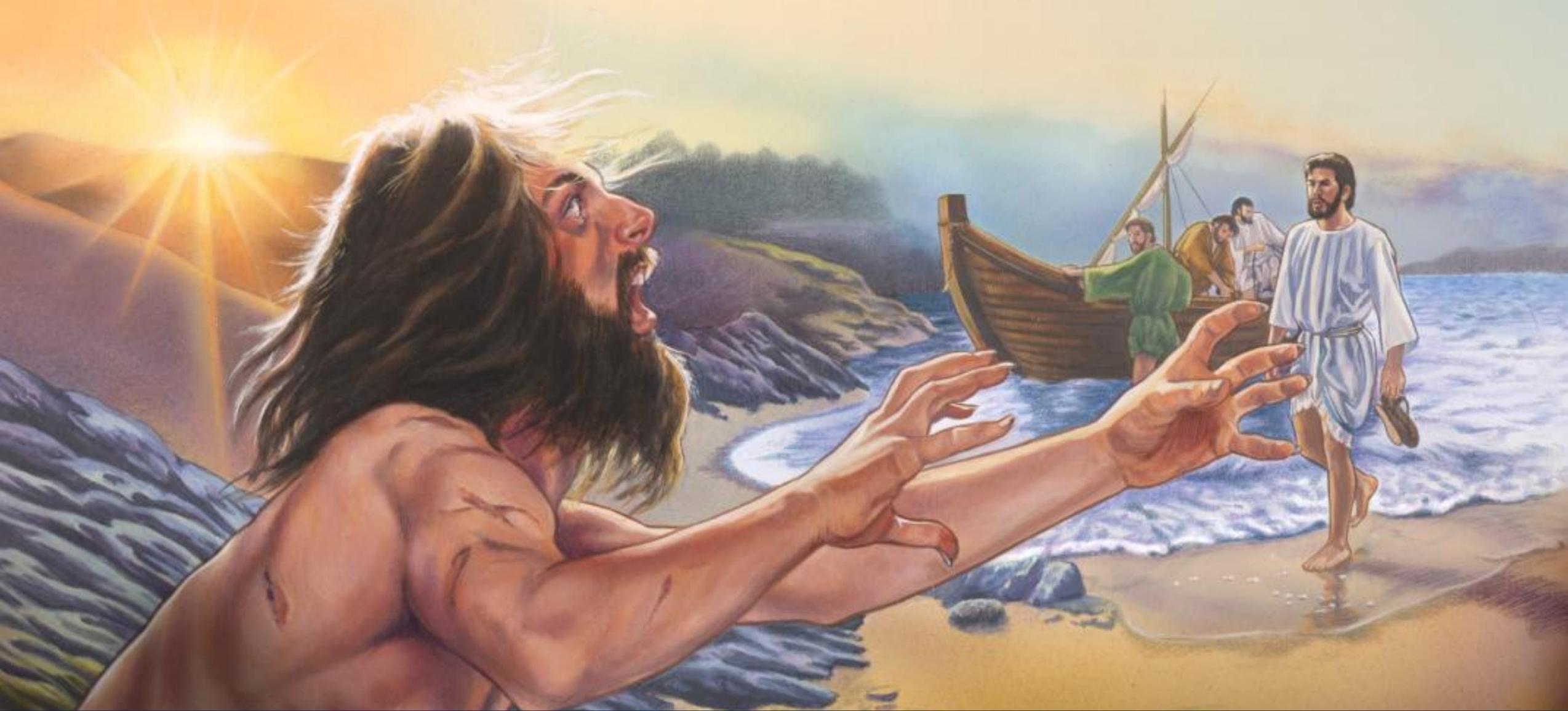
CONSIDER

SHOW RESPECT
SPEND TIME
SERVE WILLINGLY

WHAT CAN WE DO TODAY?

- Jesus & the Demon Possessed Man
- He loved people in spite of their past!
- He served the disciples knowing they'd sin against him!
- He called them his friends!
- Give some loving instead of judging!
- Show respect. Spend time. Serve willingly.

WHAT DID WE LEARN?



JESUS & THE DEMON POSSESSED MAN