

FURTHER STUDY GUIDE

Divided | Mark 5:1-20

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

After calming the storm, Jesus and His disciples arrive on the eastern side of the Sea of Galilee in the region of the Gerasenes — a predominantly Gentile area. Immediately, Jesus is confronted by a man possessed by many demons. This encounter highlights the collision between the kingdom of God and the kingdom of darkness.

The man is not just troubled — he is completely dominated. He lives among tombs (places associated with death and uncleanness), has supernatural strength, and is isolated from society. This scene would have been shocking to a Jewish audience, not only because of the demonic activity but also because of the setting (unclean territory, pigs, tombs).

This passage reveals a powerful contrast:

- Chaos vs. restoration
- Bondage vs. freedom
- Fear vs. faith

ICEBREAKER QUESTION

Have you ever seen someone's life completely change for the better? What made that transformation so powerful or surprising?

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The Man in Bondage (5:1–5)

1. What details show the severity of this man's condition?

2. Why is it significant that he lives among the tombs?

3. How does sin or spiritual bondage isolate people today?

The Authority of Jesus (5:6–13)

4. Why do the demons recognize Jesus when others struggle to?

5. What does this reveal about Jesus' authority over the spiritual realm?

6. Why might Jesus allow the demons to enter the pigs?

A Life Restored (5:14–17)

7. Why do you think the people respond with fear instead of joy?

8. What might the loss of the pigs represent to them?

9. How can people today resist Jesus even when His power is evident?

A New Mission (5:18–20)

10. Why does Jesus not allow the man to follow Him physically?

11. What does this teach about sharing our testimony?

12. How does obedience become part of transformation?

PERSONAL DEVOTION

- Are there areas in my life where I feel bound or controlled?
- Do I truly believe Jesus has authority over every spiritual struggle?
- Am I willing to share what Jesus has done in my life?
- Am I resisting Jesus because of what following Him might cost me?

APPLICATION

Following Jesus means:

- Trusting His authority over sin and darkness
- Embracing the transformation He brings
- Sharing your story with others

The man went from isolation to mission — and so do we when Jesus changes us.

QUESTIONS | REFLECTIONS | OBSERVATIONS
