

*Great
Commission*
Baptist Church



Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher



**The Suffering Servant
Sunday School
Curriculum
January 2014**



Lesson I

Date: January 5, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 1 - 5

Lesson Outline

A. The Commitment On-Display by the Son of God
(Mark 5 vs. 1)

B. The Connection Obtainable because of the Son of God
(Mark 5 vs. 2)

C. The Condition Observed by the Son of God
(Mark 5 vs. 3-5)

Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Sunday School Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Come, Ye Disconsolate

When life is tiring, when you are struggling with your sin, when family members aren't saved, when bills aren't paid, when school is difficult, when work is exhausting, when your health is failing, when your loved ones are hurt, when the future is unsure, and when a good friend leaves, it is easy to be discouraged.

Discouragement is a thief. It steals your vitality, your zeal, your joy, your peace, and your contentment. If discouragement dwells long with you, its friends will soon join. Their names are fatigue, hopelessness, despair, self-pity, depression, doubt, and bitterness. Sometimes, discouragement can be so strong that you even don't want to go on living.

If we have nothing to rely on, or we forget our blessing and look to our circumstances, then that is when discouragement begins to take hold. Instead, what we need is encouragement. We need hope and peace and the knowledge that the Lord knows our troubles has great concern and compassion for us and is not leaving us unloved or uncared for.

Keeping your eyes on Jesus is the best way to be encouraged. In Him you can have comfort and peace and encouragement.¹

¹Matt Slick



Lesson I

Date: January 5, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 1 - 5

Lesson Aim: Students will explore another truth of Jesus' authority, and discover that He is more than sufficient for any situation we face. He will heal those who are unhappy, dejected, gloomy, sad, unsatisfied, or miserable. There are no incurables with Jesus Christ.³

¹Commentary originated by Rev. Terrence Howard, TH.M.
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²Smith's Bible Dictionary: Comprising Antiquities, Biography, Geography, Natural History, Archaeology and Literature.

³Emma Stevens

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Adult Sunday School Lesson

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Mark 5:1 (KJV)

¹ And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes.

Mark 5:1 (NIV)

¹ They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes.

Come, Ye Disconsolate

A. The Commitment On-Display by the Son of God

(Verse 1) The last chapter ended with the disciples asking, "What manner of man is this that even the winds and the seas obey Him". If we can recall, in the last chapter Jesus after an exhausting day, told His disciples, "let us go over to the other side". It looked like they were not going to make it because of the storm that they encountered, but when we get to this fifth chapter we see that they came from the other side and now into the country of Gadarenes. We see that now, they are able to see that when Jesus tells them that they are going somewhere, they can be assured, they will arrive. That is like in our lives today, when Jesus gives us a command or direction to do some things in our lives, we have to stand on His word and believe that if He said it, then it will happen. They have now seen the commitment of Jesus' words.¹

This country of the Gadarenes so named from its largest city, Gadara; and this country included the country of the Gergesenes as a state includes a county. The Gerasenes were the people of the district of which Gerasa was the capital. This city was better known than Gadara or Gergesa; indeed in the Roman age no city of Palestine was better known. "It became one of the proudest cities of Syria." It was situated some 30 miles southeast of Gadara, on the borders of Peræa and a little north of the river Jabbok. It is now called *Jerash* and is a deserted ruin. The district of the Gerasenes probably included that of the Gadarenes; so that the demoniac of Gergesa belonged to the country of the Gadarenes and also to that of the Gerasenes, as the same person may, with equal truth, be said to live in the city or the state, or in the United States. For those near by the local name would be used; but in writing to a distant people, as the Greeks and Romans, the more comprehensive and general name would be given.²



Lesson I

Date: January 5, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 1 - 5

Tomb: This description suggests a typical Jewish tomb of the Herodian period consisting of (1) an antechamber, (2) a slow doorway which could be sealed with a stone (in many cases a rolling stone fitted into a groove or track so that the tomb could be opened and closed by rolling the stone back and forth in front of the doorway), and (3) a passageway leading to a rectangular-shaped tomb chamber. Here the body (having been wrapped in a linen cloth) could be laid lengthwise in either a rectangular, horizontal, oven-shaped shaft driven back into the vertical rock³.

¹⁻²Commentary originated by Rev. Terrence Howard, TH.M.
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³Holman Bible Dictionary

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Mark 5:2-3 (KJV)

² And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, ³ Who had *his* dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains:

Mark 5:2-3 (NIV)

² When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an evil spirit came from the tombs to meet him.
³ This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him any more, not even with a chain.

Come, Ye Disconsolate

B. The Connection Obtainable because of the Son of God

(Verse 2) We see that Jesus has just confronted and dealt with a storm in nature, he is now confronted with a storm, which is inside of a human being. This verse says, “when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit”. As soon as they put the anchor out of the ship and stepped off the boat, Jesus encounters a man. The passage says that this man came out of the tombs. The tombs were caves, which were cut in the mountains to serve as a gravesite for those who had died. This man came from the tombs and he had an unclean spirit. The scripture does not tell us how the unclean spirits entered this man. We do know that sin is dirty and unclean. Those that do not know God, those who have not accepted Jesus as the Son of God is living an unclean life and is controlled by satan, (unclean spirits). We see Jesus leaving one seashore to go to the opposite seashore, making himself accessible, as he connects with this man, full of sin. I thank the Lord for having compassion and patience for us, even in our unbelief state (Mark 1:26). Jesus says that he has come to seek and save those who are lost. The good news is that even now, we then have a connection to Him.¹

C. The Condition Observed by the Son of God

(Verse 3) This word condition means a state, situation, or circumstance. This verse let us first know that he was dwelling or living in the tombs. This man did not just visit the tombs and leave, but he made his living in the tombs. He became comfortable living among the dead.²



Lesson I

Date: January 5, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 1 - 5

Fetters: Translation of several Hebrew and Greek terms referring to something that constrains, especially a shackle for the foot. Fetters were made of wood, bronze (Judg. 16:21; 2 Chron. 33:11), or iron (Ps. 149:8). Fetters worn on the feet were often joined by a rope or chain to hobble the prisoner (Mark 5:4). Fetters were painful to the feet (Ps. 105:18). Paul claimed that though he wore fetters, the word of God was not fettered (2 Tim. 2:9 REB, RSV).³

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³ Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary.

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Mark 5:3 - 4 (KJV)

³ Who had *his* dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains:⁴ Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any *man* tame him.

Mark 5:3 - 4(NIV)

³ This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him any more, 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.

Come, Ye Disconsolate

C. The Condition Observed by the Son of God

(*Verse 3*) When you are filled or controlled by unclean spirits, you begin to want to live around people and hang out in places that are considered dead. The scripture then says, “and no man could bind him.” This word bind in the Greek mean, to tie or restrict. In other words, no man could tie him up or restrict his movement not even with chains. This word chains in the Greek means a fetter, shackle, or handcuff. They had no way they could shackle or handcuff him for any length of time, even though they would tie him up.¹

(*Verse 4*) This verse let us know that he was not just shackled or handcuffed only one time, but men tried often and this verse says that not only did they try to shackle his hands, but also his feet. When they tied him up, the passage says, “and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces”. This verb phrase, “broken in pieces”, mean to crush completely, to shatter. The iron chains that they would use to tie this man up, he would crush to pieces. What display of strength for him, to be bound, and yet be able to crush iron chains into pieces. We have to face reality and understand that satan does have some power, but God has all power. When we are under the influence, or when unclean spirits is controlling us, we become stronger than our natural being. You will see or hear about people, who are on drugs and alcohol, gain an incredible amount of strength, and do things that normally they would not be strong enough to do or handle. They would appear untamable and dangerous. We have even heard about them believing that they had the ability to fly and tried to jump off buildings and fall to their death (James 3 7-8).²



Lesson I

Date: January 5, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 1 - 5

Questions:

1. Do you know someone today who is living with a tormented heart and mind?

2. Do you believe there are no incurables with Jesus Christ?

¹Commentary originated by Rev. Terrence Howard, TH.M.
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²Emma Stevens

Questions by Emma Stevens

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Mark 5:5 (KJV)

⁵ And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones.

Mark 5:5 (NIV)

⁵ Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.

Come, Ye Disconsolate

C. The Condition Observed by the Son of God

(Verse 5) We see in this verse that this man in the tombs, night and day crying and cutting himself. We see that he was heard because of the crying out and the people were able to see that he was cutting himself when they saw the cuts and blood running from this man (I Kings 18:28). Can you imagine a maniac, destroying his own body? This man was leaving scars on his body from the cutting of the stones, to let others know when they saw the scars that he had cut his own self. That is what satan loves to do, once he is allowed to enter the body, his job is to destroy life. When we allow him or the unclean spirits (sin), enter our lives, they have one purpose, and that is to destroy and conquer. When we allow sin to enter, it will definitely leave some scars, it will leave scars on us and leave scars on those that we have caused pain to deal with it their own lives.¹

Summary: Believe it or not, before receiving the Gospel message, you too were in the same situation as the man in our lesson. We were living *'dead men and women'*. That is, until Jesus showed up and we accepted him into our lives . . . then everything changed! Jesus set us free from the bondage and disconsolate state we *were* living in. It was a miracle when Jesus calmed the storm on that tempestuous sea; it is a far greater miracle when Jesus calms the storm in the heart and in the life of an individual. Trust Him to continue to do just that in 2014.²



Lesson II

Date: January 12, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 6 - 10

Lesson Outline

A. The Authority Displayed
before the Son of God
(Mark 5 vs. 6)

B. The Announcement
Delivered to the Son of God
(Mark 5 vs. 7-8)

C. The Audit Done by the
Son of God
(Mark 5 vs. 9-10)

¹Biblical Illustrator - Mark.

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He is Lord

Now this, in regard of all things, even secular and social, is the great law of life. But how much more is its solemnity increased when it has to do with matters religious and spiritual? The question, in its first connection, was addressed to Christ; and its most significant application is to the case of impenitent and ungodly men who, with a like question, turn away from the gospel. "Oh," say some men, "I have nothing to do with it! I am not a professing Christian! I never joined any Church! What, then, is all this to me? What have I to do with the gospel of Christ?" But, alas, for their false logic! they have something to do with it. Their indifference cannot alter their relations to the gospel. Those relations grow out of character and condition. I can imagine a foolish man cherishing a settled dislike to the great law of gravitation, overlooking its beneficent results as working out, from the rounding of a dew drop to the rounding of a star—from the graceful *equipoise* of a lily's leaf to the harmonies of the stupendous systems of the universe—all the grand and gracious processes and phenomena of creation—overlooking all this, and thinking that but for its restraining power he might spring up as a pure spirit into the boundless expanse of heaven, and wander at will from star to star through immensity. I can conceive of such an one as disliking that great law, and in his insane hate blaspheming the Omnipotence which devised it. But what of that? Can the man escape from it? Will God have respect to his perverted taste, and annihilate that glorious force whereon depend all the beauties and harmonies of the universe? ¹



Lesson II

Date: January 12, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 6 - 10

Lesson Aim: Students will appreciate Jesus’ life-changing, sin-killing, bondage-breaking power in their life, and acknowledge daily that He is Lord!!!³

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³ Emma Stevens

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Adult Sunday School Lesson

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Mark 5:6 (KJV)

⁶ But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him,

Mark 5:6 (NIV)

⁶ When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him.

He is Lord

A. The Authority Displayed Before the Son of God

(Verse 6) This word authority means power or influence.

Display means to show or demonstrate. This verse shows us that this man had some form of knowledge in order to show that Jesus had supreme authority. The verse starts by saying, “but when he saw Jesus afar off”. This word “saw”, in the Greek means to beware or to have knowledge. There were many ships, which came into the port, along with many people in order to purchase things and to sell things. Matthew writes that this same man would chase people. When the ships came in, he probably ran to the shore screaming in order to scare the people that would get off the ships. He was not only a terror for the community, but even for the business owners that made their business of the people coming to the shore (Matthew 8:28).¹

The demons controlled his every move and that is why he would run out screaming. When we are out of fellowship with Jesus, we too allow other spirits, which are not of God to control us. They control the way we walk, the way we talk, and the places that we go. As this man came closer to Jesus, the scripture says, “he worshipped him,” this word worship in the Greek means, “to fall at one's feet," "to kneel," to bow low." This is the same man, that no chains could hold or no man could tame, but the demons recognized the authority of the Son of God. It is amazing how the demons, animals, and creation will recognize the authority of God and submit, but we, who are created in His very image, have a problem with obeying and submitting to His word. This act by the demons was one not of worship, because the demons cannot worship God. One can come to church and bow down and look like they are worshipping, but their worship can be in vain and empty, even to the point of being fake (John 4:24).²



Lesson II

Date: January 12, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 6 - 10

Son of God: In the New Testament this phrase frequently denotes the relation into which we are brought to God by adoption (Rom 8:14) It occurs thirty-seven times in the New Testament as the distinctive title of our Saviour. He does not bear this title in consequence of his miraculous birth, nor of his incarnation, his resurrection, and exaltation to the Father's right hand. This is a title of nature and not of office. The sonship of Christ denotes his equality with the Father. To call Christ the Son of God is to assert his true and proper divinity.

¹⁻³Commentary originated by Rev. Terrence Howard, TH.M. All editing and copying by permission only.

⁴Eastons Bible Dictionary

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Mark 5:7-8 (KJV)

⁷ And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, *thou* Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not.

⁸ For he said unto him, Come out of the man, *thou* unclean spirit.

Mark 5:7-8 (NIV)

⁷ He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!" ⁸ For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you evil spirit!"

He is Lord

B. The Announcement Delivered to the Son of God

(*Verse 7*) This word announcement means a statement, declaration, or proclamation. The verse says, "And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee." The demons here was saying to Jesus, we know who you are, but we have nothing in common. We both have agendas that are going in the opposite direction, you want to help people, I want to destroy people.¹

The demons are well aware of whom Jesus is and they recognize His title as they called him, "Jesus, thou Son of the Most High God?" (James 2:19). The demons announced publicly, who Jesus is. It is amazing that we have people who deny that Jesus ever existed or even that he is the Son of God. We even have people who have a problem with announcing publicly that they know Him and have a relationship with Him. After they announced His supremacy, they then said, "I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not." This word "adjure", in the Greek means to make a proposal or plea. It takes on the idea of one who is begging. Some translations use, "swear". It is actually, to put on oath. This word "torment" in the Greek means, to test metals, or to test by torture. In other words, he is begging Jesus to make an oath by God, not to torture him. The demons know that at the end of time, they will be tossed, into the lake of fire to be tormented for eternity (Rev. 20: 1-3). This is an ironic statement because the same demons that controlled this man who tormented him and tormented the people that came to the shores, he is now asking and pleading for mercy. One who showed no mercy is now looking for mercy.²

(*Verse 8*) In this verse, we see that Jesus is now going to respond. He says, "Come out of the man, *thou* unclean spirit."³



Lesson II

Date: January 12, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 6 - 10

Demons: In the New Testament demons belong to the kingdom of Satan whose power it is the mission of Christ to destroy. It deepens and intensifies its representations of the earnestness of human life and its moral issues by extending the sphere of moral struggle to the invisible world. It clearly teaches that the power of Christ extends to the world of evil spirits and that faith in Him is adequate protection against any evils to which men may be exposed.³

¹⁻²Commentary originated by Rev. Terrence Howard, TH.M. All editing and copying by permission only.

³ International Bible Standard Encyclopedia

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Mark 5:8 - 9(KJV)

⁸ For he said unto him, Come out of the man, *thou* unclean spirit.

⁹ And he asked him, What *is* thy name? And he answered, saying, My name *is* Legion: for we are many.

Mark 5:8 - 9(NIV)

⁸ For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you evil spirit!"⁹ Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many."

He is Lord

B. The Announcement Delivered to the Son of God

(Verse 8) We remember from chapter 1, the man that was possessed with the unclean spirits, Jesus told the spirit to "Hold thy peace, and come out of him". In this verse, he says, "come out". This was a command by Jesus for the spirit to come out of the man. He said it with such authority and power that the spirit knew he had to obey because he was no match for Jesus (Acts 16:8). Jesus says that he has come into this world to seek and save those who are lost. Jesus saw what was on the inside of this man and not what others saw on the outside. Jesus saw what this man could become, not what he was at that moment. We ought to be glad that Jesus saw what we could become from the inside and not what our actions and our behavior demonstrated on the outside. We should be in a continuous praise because he came after us, pursued us, because there was nothing on the inside of us that wanted to be rescued, to be delivered from the demons of this world.¹

C. The Audit Done by the Son of God

(Verse 9) In this verse, Jesus asked the unclean spirit, "What is thy name?" Jesus knew who the spirit was, but wanted the disciples who were still around and watching to hear what the spirit would say. The spirit answered and said, "My name is Legion: for we are many". This word legion is a military technical term that the Romans used to describe 6,000 plus, foot soldiers. To the Jews, when they heard this word Legion, it meant great numbers, great organization, and great strength. This would let the disciples know that this man had many spirits that dwelled in him, but showed them that not only does Jesus have power over one unclean spirit, but that they can multiply and become many and Jesus is still supreme over all evil spirits. This showed that even though they were big in numbers, they still had to obey the command of Jesus.²



Lesson II
Date: January 12, 2014
Lesson Scriptures:
Mark 5: 6 - 10

Questions:

1. Do you know someone who is living as an outcast from his or her family, and from society?

2. How willing are you to share Christ with him/her so that He will become Lord over their life?

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³Emma Stevens

Questions by Emma Stevens

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Mark 5:10 (KJV)

¹⁰ And he besought him much that he would not send them away out of the country.

Mark 5:10 (NIV)

¹⁰ And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area.

He is Lord

C. The Audit Done by the Son of God

(Verse 9) This let us know even today, that regardless of what we are dealing with and it can be many sinful things, Jesus is able to deliver and rescue us, if we want to be rescued (Luke 11: 21-23).¹

(Verse 10) We see that in this verse the demons still are begging and pleading, not to be sent out of the country. They did not know if he could prematurely send them to a place of torment. They did not know if he could order them to go to the abyss or not, so they asked again for His mercy. Again we see the demons who offered no one else mercy, now pleading and begging for mercy. (Luke 8:31).²

Summary: Once upon a time, we possessed an unclean spirit that had us destroyed and dirty, deranged, disheveled, and demolished. Thanks to our Lord and Savior, that we ran to Him, accepted Him, and gave Him authority over our life. The man in our lesson, who ran from everyone else, ran to the feet of Jesus. Isn't it amazing how Jesus always hears a cry for help, whenever we face a crisis in our life, we too can find peace and comfort at the feet of Jesus. No matter how many problems we may face in 2014, let us not become comfortable with wickedness, and sin that this world will offer. Jesus is still Lord and is far superior to any problem(s) we will face. Jesus has the answers and He will listen to our cry for help every time. We must trust him to deliver us, and obey him as he guide us.³



Lesson III

Date: January 19, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 11 - 14

Lesson Outline

A. The Possessed Petition to the Son of God
(Mark 5 vs. 11-12)

B. The Permission Presented by the Son of God
(Mark 5 vs. 13)

C. The People's Proclamation about the Son of God
(Mark 5 vs. 14)

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A Mad Man Healed

Without exception, Jesus knew His enemies and drew them into open battle in front of several witnesses. Also, without exception, Jesus' enemies knew Him and were profoundly aware of His identity as the Son of God. The text says that Legion ran up and worshiped Jesus—not out of love but by virtue of Jesus' authority. The very presence of the Son of God antagonized the evil spirits.¹

Contrast this with most people, even many Christians, who go about their lives oblivious to the unseen battle raging all around us for the souls of men and women. As we survey the misery of the human race and recoil in horror at headline events, it seems that demons are still rampant in our world. In light of a world that teeters on the brink of madness and feeds on the tragedy of human despair and disbelief, we have only one refuge. It remains the same for believers today as it did for His intimate companions then. Our refuge is Jesus Christ, the Son of Almighty God, who keeps these demons at bay. In His power, we have soundness of mind, clarity of thought, and a precious salvation that preserves us despite the forces seeking to consume us.²

¹⁻²Easy-To-Read Commentary Series, The - Easy-to-Read Commentary Series – Mark: Jesus Christ, Love in Action.



Lesson III

Date: January 19, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 11 - 14

Lesson Aim: Students will know that they can make their petition known to Gods when they are in need of deliverance from anything and to realize that Jesus is the only one that can deliver them and restore their peace.³

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³ Earline Franklin

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Mark 5:11-12 (KJV)

¹¹ Now there was there nigh unto the mountains a great herd of swine feeding. ¹² And all the devils besought him, saying, Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them.

Mark 5:11-12 (NIV)

¹¹ A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. ¹²The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them."

A Mad Man Healed

A. The Possessed Petition to the Son of God

(Verse 11) This word petition means an appeal or request to a higher authority. This verse tells us that while the events were happening in verses 6 through 10 by the seashore, there was a great herd of swine feeding by the mountains. History tells us that a normal herd of pigs was considered to be from 150 to 300. The scripture puts emphasis on great, which tells us, this was not a normal herd. According to the Old Testament Law, pigs were considered, as unclean animals (Leviticus 11:7). This meant that the Jews did not eat or even touch the pigs. The place where this event occurs is considered a Gentile territory. The Gentiles raised pigs for the meat market for the region of Decapolis. This was how they earned their money.¹

(Verse 12) We see that in this verse, it says, "And all the devils besought him". This word besought in the Greek means to beg, ask or request. They knew that whatever Jesus commanded for them, whatever he said for them to do, they would have to obey instantly. They were not ready to leave the area of Decapolis because some theologians say that they were so familiar with the territory, they knew the people, and if they left this man, they would definitely find another person to control. They saw the pigs and begged the Lord for Him to send them to the pigs. The demons knew that if they requested the Lord to send them to another human being, then that request would not be granted because they were already in a human being, where He was getting ready to give the command for them to leave. They pleaded and begged to enter the swine. The demons walk this earth looking for a populated area, because in a desolate, barren, and uninhabited place, they cannot function. They walk around to see who will allow them to enter so that they can control and destroy that person.²



Lesson III

Date: January 19, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 11 - 14

Swine: Stout-bodied animals that have a large snout and thick skin. The swine of the Bible, in most instances, probably were the wild pig, still common in Palestine. While Canaanite pagans kept herds of swine, the Mosaic law classified this animal as “unclean” and thus forbade the eating of its flesh (Lev. 11:7; Deut. 14:8). Isaiah condemned the eating of swine, dogs, and mice (65:4; 66:3,17). One who tended swine was barred from the temple.³

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³Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary.

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Great Commission Baptist Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Mark 5:12-13 (KJV)

¹² And all the devils besought him, saying, Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them.

¹³ And forthwith Jesus gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, (they were about two thousand;) and were choked in the sea.

Mark 5:12-13 (NIV)

¹²The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them." ¹³ He gave them permission, and the evil 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.

A Mad Man Healed

A. The Possessed Petition to the Son of God

(Verse 12) The demons know their destination and they do not want to go alone, so their mission is to try to influence others, to go down the path, where they will end up at the end of time and that is the lake of fire.(Luke 22:31-32)¹

B. The Permission Presented by the Son of God

(Verse 13) This word permission means to give authorization or agreement. In this verse, we see that it says, “Forthwith Jesus gave them leave.” This word forthwith means without delay Jesus gave them permission to enter the pigs. We have to be careful and realize here, that Jesus did not command them, but allowed them to enter the pigs, if they chose to. The scripture then says, “that the unclean spirits went out and entered the swine: and the herd ran violently.” This phrase “ran violently” in the Greek means, to set in rapid motion, to stir up, to start forward recklessly, and to rush. When the unclean spirits entered the pigs, they were stirred to the point that they became reckless as they rushed down the steep bank. This also happens to us as believers, because we are still covered in this flesh, and sometimes we will get carnal thoughts and want to do carnal things. When we allow unclean spirits to influence us, we become reckless and stirred to the point that we are on our way down hill. Mark is the only writer that gives us a numerical image of how many pigs that was in the herd and the fact that this one man had that many unclean spirits that he had on the inside of him, because they all came out of this man. He records it was about two thousand.²



Lesson III

Date: January 19, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 11- 14

Herdsmen: One who cares for cattle/pigs in contrast to a shepherd who cares for sheep. Amos served as a herdsman before receiving his prophetic call (Amos 7:14). Herdsmen were sometimes included among high-ranking officials of ancient kings (1 Chron. 27:29; 28:1; cp. Gen. 46:34). Herdsmen were sometimes paid from the products of the herd (1 Cor. 9:7).

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Adult Sunday School Lesson

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Mark 5:13 - 14(KJV)

¹³ And forthwith Jesus gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, (they were about two thousand;) and were choked in the sea.

¹⁴ And they that fed the swine fled, and told *it* in the city, and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that was done.

Mark 5:13 - 14(NIV)

¹³ He gave them permission, and the evil 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.

A Mad Man Healed

B. The Permission Presented by the Son of God

(*Verse 13*) The passage says, that two thousand unclean spirits that entered these pigs “were choked in the sea.” This word choked in the Greek means to wheeze, strangle, or drown. This verb choked is in the imperfect tense, which means that of a continuous action in progress. This graphically puts an image of pig-by-pig; one by one went into the sea and drowned. Jesus allowed this public demonstration for His disciples and those who were watching, that he will allow two thousand pigs to give their life in order to save one mad man. He was showing them that the unclean spirits that made the pigs go mad and drown, is the same that they are willing to see in man. The unclean spirit only wants to see mankind drown themselves in their own sin. (Job 1:12)¹

C. The People’s Proclamation about the Son of God

(*Verse 14*) This word Proclamation means to make a public announcement. We see here that the passage says, “And they that fed the swine fled, and told it in the city”. This word fled in the Greek means to run away, flee. Can you imagine what was going through the mind of these men? They were responsible for all of these pigs and now, how are they going to explain this, the herd that was how they made their money, their income now has drowned in the sea. They were a witness to the whole thing and now running in fear of what may happen to them. These men could lose their jobs, be put to death, or may have to repay this debt back to the boss who owned the pigs.²



Lesson III

Date: January 19, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 11 - 14

Questions:

1. What are the things that you need to be delivered from? (share only if you are comfortable doing so).

2. How will you make your petition known to God regarding it/them?

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²Earline Franklin

Questions by Earline Franklin

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Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Mark 5:14 (KJV)

¹⁴ And they that fed the swine fled, and told *it* in the city, and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that was done.

Mark 5:14 (NIV)

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.

A Mad Man Healed

C. The People's Proclamation about the Son of God

(Verse 14) These men were making sure that they made it known where ever they went of what they were witnessed to. When they told it, the passage said that the people then went out to see for themselves, what had happened. There had been a tragedy proclaimed by the men who were watching the herd. A tragedy of a great loss in their minds and because of the loss, others wanted to see it for themselves.¹

Summary: When the possessed man realized the condition he was in, he knew that his deliverance could only come from Jesus. Jesus received his petition and delivered him at which point others present went about telling what Jesus had done. We are to follow the example in today's lesson and share with others what God is doing in our lives. It is good to know that God can deliver us from all dangers so that these things do not continue to hold us captive and others can see God working in our lives.²



Lesson IV

Date: January 26, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 15 - 20

Lesson Outline

A. The Recapitulation of the Miracle Worker
(Mark 5 vs. 15-16)

B. The Response because of the **Miracle Worker**
(Mark 5 vs. 17-18)

C. The Request given by the **Miracle Worker**
(Mark 5 vs. 19-20)

Great Commission Baptist Church
Adult Sunday School Lesson
Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

God is So Good

Who do you know that is trustworthy? I mean, really trustworthy. Do you know anyone that you could trust with your life? With your money? With your home? If you do, then you know there is a special bond between you. One of the reasons you are able to trust another so much is because of the character of that person. You can't trust a thief or a liar. But you can trust someone who has a track record of integrity, honesty, faithfulness, etc. So, in a very real sense, trust (faith) is only as good as the one you put it in.

God is trustworthy. The Bible tells us to trust God. In fact, the middle verse of the Bible is Psalm 118:9 which says "It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes," (KJV). While we sleep, the Lord is awake. Though we cannot see the path ahead of us with all its blessings and troubles, the Lord sees it and guides us through it with His love. These are truths we need to hear. Has not the Lord been ruling the world before we were born? Most assuredly yes. Will He not rule it in the future? Of course. Since these are both true, then should not all of us Christians be trusting the Lord to rule not only this world but also our lives in the present?

Matt Slick



Lesson IV

Date: January 26, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 15 - 20

Lesson Aim: Students will understand that God’s mercy and deliverance is shown to us in order that we might be a living, walking, demonstration of what Christ can do for an individual, who has been delivered from sin.³

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Great Commission Baptist Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

Dr. Douglas E. Brown, Pastor/Teacher

Mark 5:15 (KJV)

¹⁵ And they come to Jesus, and see him that was possessed with the devil, and had the legion, sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid.

Mark 5:15 (NIV)

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.

God is So Good

A. The Recapitulation of the Miracle Worker

(Verse 15) This word recapitulation means that of a review.

These people of this city had known and seen the mad man. They feared him, but now after they have heard what had happened, this verse says they come to get a review. That is to view again. The scripture says, “And they come to Jesus, and see him that was possessed”. This word come in the Greek is in the present tense, which means that they continued to come to Jesus. They came to see what Jesus had done with all of those pigs, and what he had done to the man they knew as “The Mad Man”.¹

The next phrase, “and see him that was possessed with the devil”. This word “see”, in the Greek means, to view attentively, take a view of, survey, or to consider. It is like a spectator that looks attentively with interest. It also takes on the idea of like a general reviewing and giving his full attention on inspecting his army. They were taking an inspection to consider for their own selves, if what they heard, did it really happen. The scripture says, “and had the legion, sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid”. When we look at this verse, we see that Jesus had to work first on this man from the inside before we saw an outward change. The scripture says that he was clothed. Before Jesus came, this man was naked and cutting himself which people saw visibly from the outside, now we see that he is clothed and sitting at the feet of Jesus. The result of a change from the inside caused this man to be clothed physically. Not only do we see that he was clothed physically, but that he was clothed mentally. The scripture says, “He was in his right mind” (Matt.11:28).²



Lesson IV
Date: January 26, 2014
Lesson Scriptures:
Mark 5: 15 - 20

Pagans: Those who worship a god or gods other than the living God to whom the Bible witnesses. NIV, REB, and RSV sometimes use pagans as the translation of the Greek *ethnoi* (1 Cor. 5:1; 10:20), which is generally translated Gentiles (so KJV, NAS). In English, Gentile relates to ethnic background while pagan refers to religious affiliation.

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³Holman Bible Dictionary

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Mark 5:16-17 (KJV)

¹⁶ And they that saw *it* told them how it befell to him that was possessed with the devil, and *also* concerning the swine. ¹⁷ And they began to pray him to depart out of their coasts.

Mark 5:16-17 (NIV)

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.

God is So Good

A. The Recapitulation of the Miracle Worker

(Verse 16) We see at the end of verse 15 it says, “and they were afraid”. They were terrified because the same man that they tried to tie up consistently is now sitting calmly at the feet of Jesus. They didn’t understand how could this be, he had overpowered them time after time, but now is sitting in submission to Jesus. The man who was seen out of control is now showing self-control. This verse let us know that the people who were on the scene of the event, once the other people began to come, they began to give the report of what Jesus had done, they told of the change in the man and also the loss of the pigs. These people had to tell it again because they had never seen such power to see the man who is not a mad man anymore and the lost of two thousand pigs into the sea. When they began to see people gather, they could not hold it in and keep it to themselves, but they had to tell somebody. This is a message for all of us, that if Jesus has done something for you, or you were an eyewitness to His miraculous power, you ought to be an eyewitness and tell somebody.¹

B. The Response Because of the Miracle Worker

(Verse 17) This word response means to reply or a reaction. We see in this verse that it says, “And they began to pray him to depart out of their coasts”. This word “pray”, in the Greek means to entreat, plead, request, or beg. After they had seen the power of Jesus, they pleaded and requested that he leave. They saw that the man had been changed, but they were worried about the change they had lost in their pockets. This region was highly polluted in pagan worship, that they were more worried about their money than the deliverance of the man. They became upset to the point that they did not want Jesus around.²



Lesson IV

Date: January 26, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 15 - 20

Compassion: To feel passion with someone, to enter sympathetically into their sorrow and pain. Compassion in English translations represents at least five Hebrew and eight Greek terms. *Chamal* means “to regret,” “be sorry for,” “grieve over,” or “spare someone.” Thus the rich man “refrained” (NIV) from taking his own sheep and took the poor man’s (2 Sam. 12:4). Pharaoh’s daughter “had pity” on the baby Moses (Ex. 2:6).⁴

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⁴ Holman Bible Dictionary.

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Mark 5:17-19(KJV)

¹⁷ And they began to pray him to depart out of their coasts.¹⁸ And when he was come into the ship, he that had been possessed with the devil prayed him that he might be with him. ¹⁹ Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee.

Mark 5:17-19(NIV)

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 family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you."

God is So Good

B. The Response Because of the Miracle Worker

(*Verse 17*) They may have thought that if Jesus did not leave, that it would hurt their economy. People thought they would lose their businesses, due to the power that Jesus had just displayed (Gen. 26:16).¹

(*Verse 18*) This verse begins with, “And when he was come into the ship”. Actually, in the Greek it states that as Jesus was entering the ship, the man that was possessed spoke to him. This let us know that when they asked Jesus to leave, he did not argue with them, he never went where people did not accept him. Jesus will never force himself on anybody. This seems strange that the people wanted him to leave, but the man that was possessed, after his change, begged and pleaded Jesus that he allow him to go along with his disciples. After Jesus made a change in his life, he wanted to follow and be with him. He thought about how could he repay the one, who made a change in his life, his decision was to follow and serve the Lord. This would be a lesson for all of us who have had a change in our lives, since we met Jesus. We ought to want to follow and serve Jesus, because of what he has done in our lives. (Psalm 116:12).²

C. The Request Given by the Miracle Worker

(*Verse 19*) In this verse, we see this is a time where Jesus does not grant what a person requested. He pleaded and begged Jesus to allow him to go, but Jesus said no. This word “suffer” in the passage means, to omit or to send away. Jesus did not include him for the journey.³



Lesson IV

Date: January 26, 2014

Lesson Scriptures:

Mark 5: 15 - 20

Questions:

1. Christ must begin with someone. In your circle and society how can He begin with you to share with others the change He has made in your life?
2. What are you doing to fulfill God's purpose and plan for you as a believer?

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Mark 5:19-20 (KJV)

¹⁹ Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee.²⁰ And he departed, and began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all *men* did marvel.

Mark 5:19-20 (NIV)

¹⁹ Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your family 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.

God is So Good

c. The Request Given by the Miracle Worker

(Verse 19) Jesus then says, "go home", this word in the Greek is in the imperative mood, which means a command. Jesus gives an order to this man, who had been changed, to go home and tell the people in his house and his community about what he has done. He knew what the towns people was going to say about him and assassinate his character, he wanted to at least leave a witness that would tell people of this land the compassion that Jesus had for him (Daniel 6: 25-27) .¹

(Verse 20) We see that after Jesus gives him the command, he does not wait, but he departs to obey the command of Jesus. He began to tell people, how Jesus had made a change in his life and the people were amazed. Jesus gives us this same command, we know how the world assassinates his character with all kinds of lies to the point, they try and take his name out of everything that we do. Our job as followers of Jesus Christ is to keep it on the minds of all people, how good God is and what he has done for us (Matt. 28:19-20).²

Summary: The possessed man wanted to follow Jesus once he was delivered. However, Jesus had a greater purpose in mind than for the man to follow Him. The man was to return home to his family so they could see what God had done for him and they could be saved. Jesus wanted the man to be a seed that would lead to a greater harvest. God wants to use each believer as a seed for a greater harvest. God's purpose and plan for all believers is always best and believers should be obedient to follow them.³

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