

MIRACLE MAN

Miracle Man - Week 4

The Main Concept - Mark 5:1-20

Pray as you begin your group. Ask the Holy Spirit to speak into your group through God's Word and through each other. Read the passage and take a few minutes to quietly consider what it has to say to you and your group.

We all have brokenness. For some of us, the areas of brokenness in our lives is more obvious than it is for others. Have you ever seen the show "Hoarders" or watched an episode of Dr. Phil? Yikes. People who have areas of brokenness in their lives which has continued to grow over many years often find themselves feeling like a complete outcast; unable to give or receive love. The external chaos in their lives is symptomatic of the internal chaos of their souls. Yet this is NOT what God designed our souls to be. Rather, each and every soul was meant to be a peace-filled temple of God's own life and presence. Jesus shows us in this passage that He will go WAY out of His way and do whatever it takes to reach the most deeply broken of all and restore life and peace to their souls. All three synoptic gospels (Matthew Mark and Luke) record this dramatic account of Jesus healing the demoniac so it must be significant. Lets dig in and see what this account of Jesus reveals to us about who we are and who God is.

Discussion Questions:

1. What did you think of the sermon this week?
 - a. Did God teach you anything new or challenge you in any way?
2. Each of the miracles recorded in scripture are recorded for a reason. So why this one? What does this account tell us about who Jesus is, what he came to do and who he goes out of His way to pursue?
 - a. Jesus got into a boat, sailed through a storm, all the way to an area that his culture deemed "unclean", just to locate a man who was so broken that he was living in a cemetery...How does/should all this inform or change the way you think Jesus sees *you*?
3. This passage teaches us that obvious external brokenness is a manifestation of inner soul-brokenness.
 - a. How should that change the way we look at people with obvious problems?
 - b. How do you think Christians should treat obviously broken people? Why?
4. Read Romans 8:38-39 and talk about how it
 - a. How far from God do you think this man believed he was?
 - b. Have you ever felt like something in your life has created distance between you and God?
 - i. Based on this Romans passage, is it possible to be separated from God's love if you trust Jesus as your savior?
 - ii. What can we do when we *feel* like something has come between us and God?
5. Read Mark 5:18-20 - this part of the account teaches us that this man's hideous brokenness BECAME his testimony, a message of hope which gave so much glory to God so that people "marveled".
 - a. Are you proud of the brokenness that Jesus has freed you from? Or do you want to hide it? Why?