
THE GOSPEL OF

MARK

SUFFERING SERVANT & SON OF GOD

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
Thursdays, Jan 9 - May 1 @ 6:30-7:30a



WARRIOR'S HEART
BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM ONE MAN AT A TIME

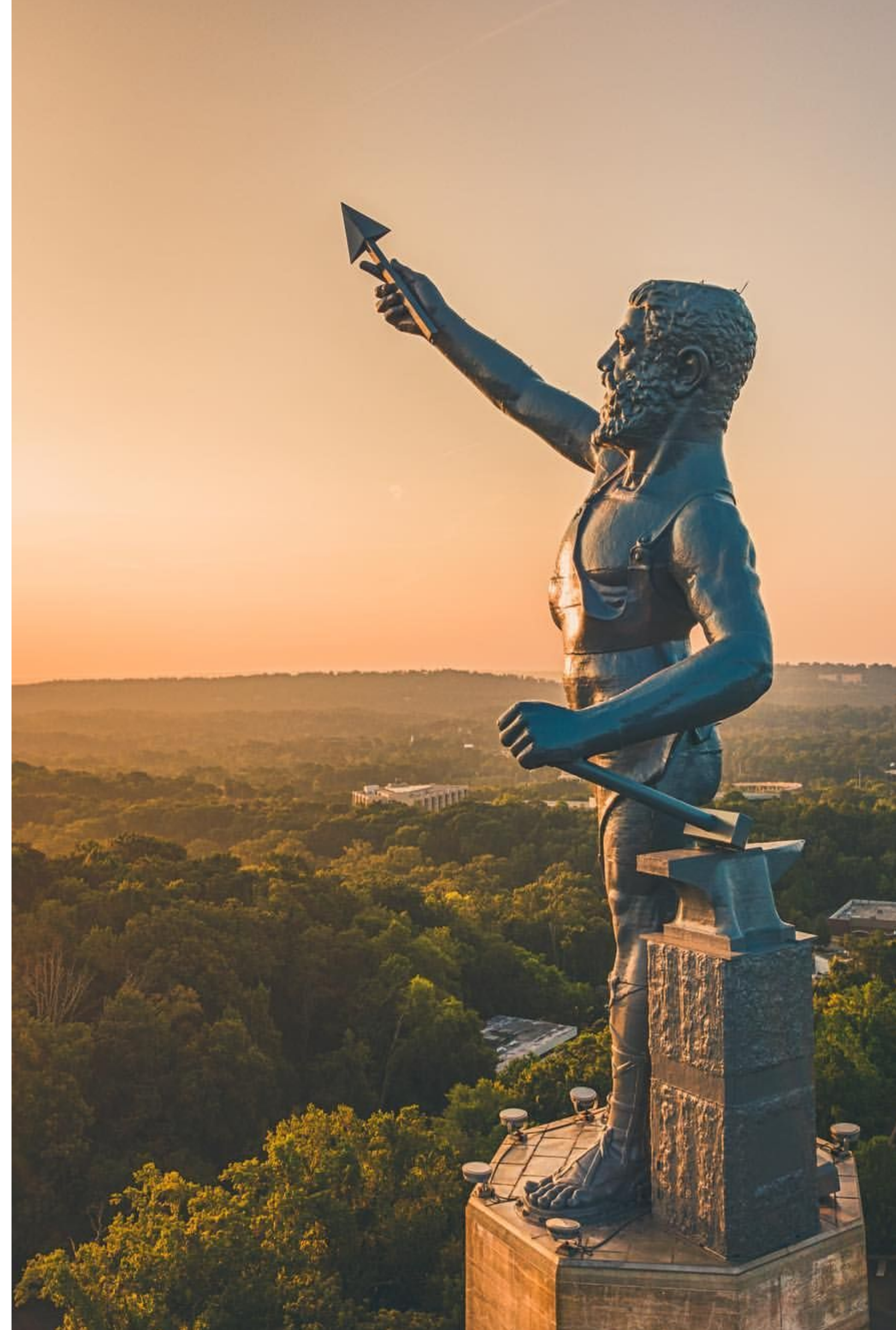
HoustonsFirst.org
WarriorsHeart.org

Two-Pronged Ministry



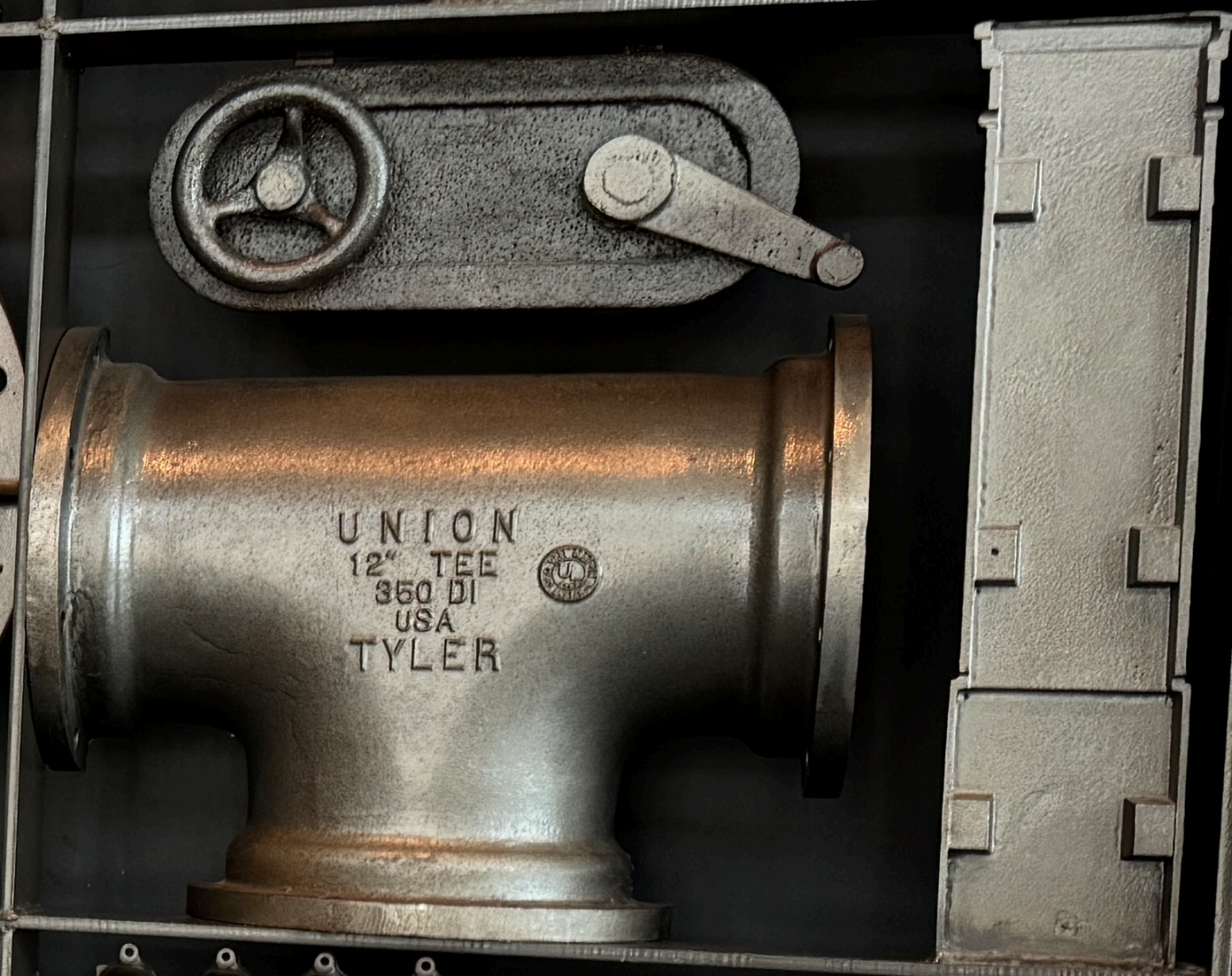
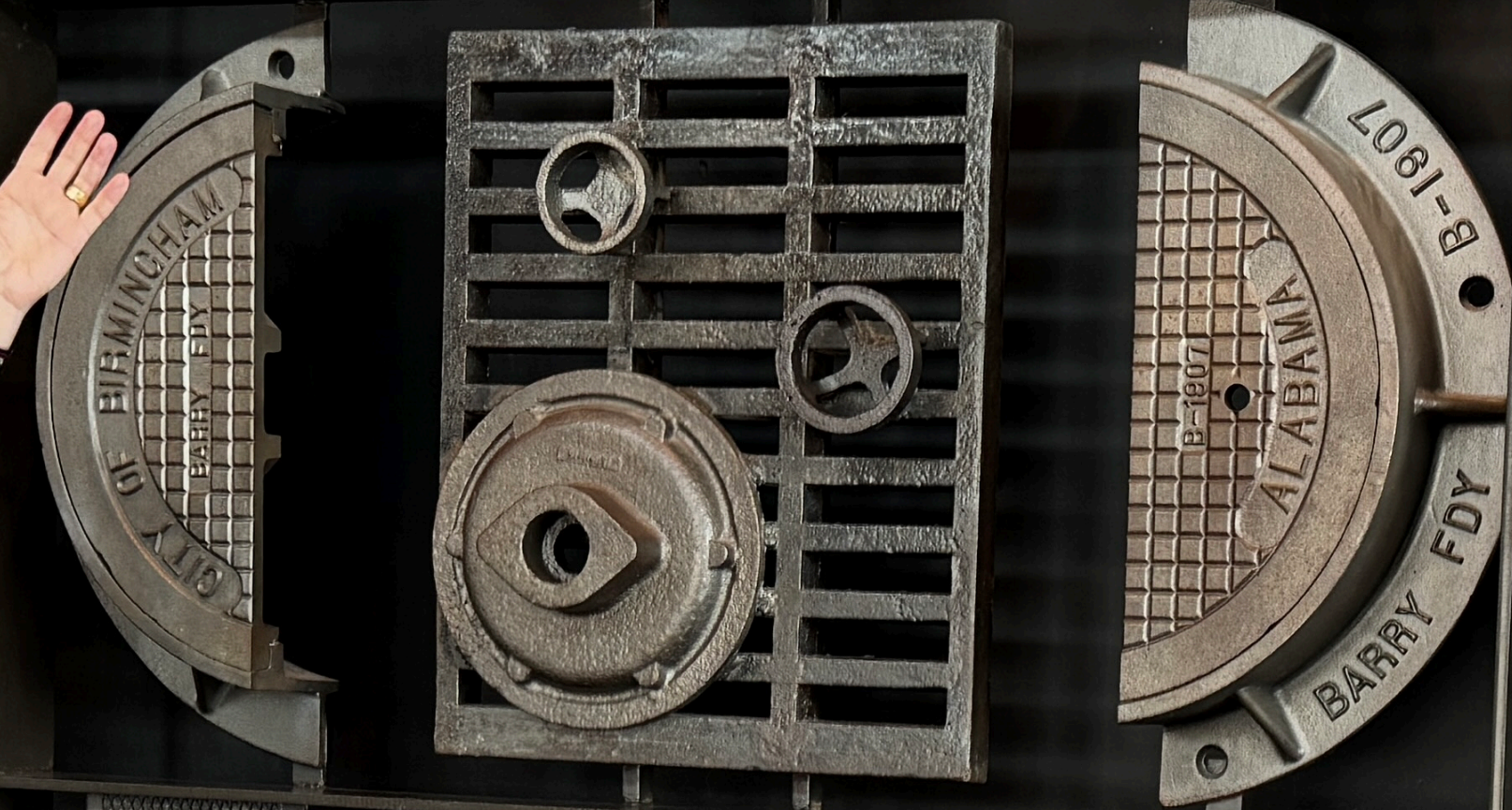
Christ has been about:

1. **Revealing** His identity
2. **Refining** His disciples' faith



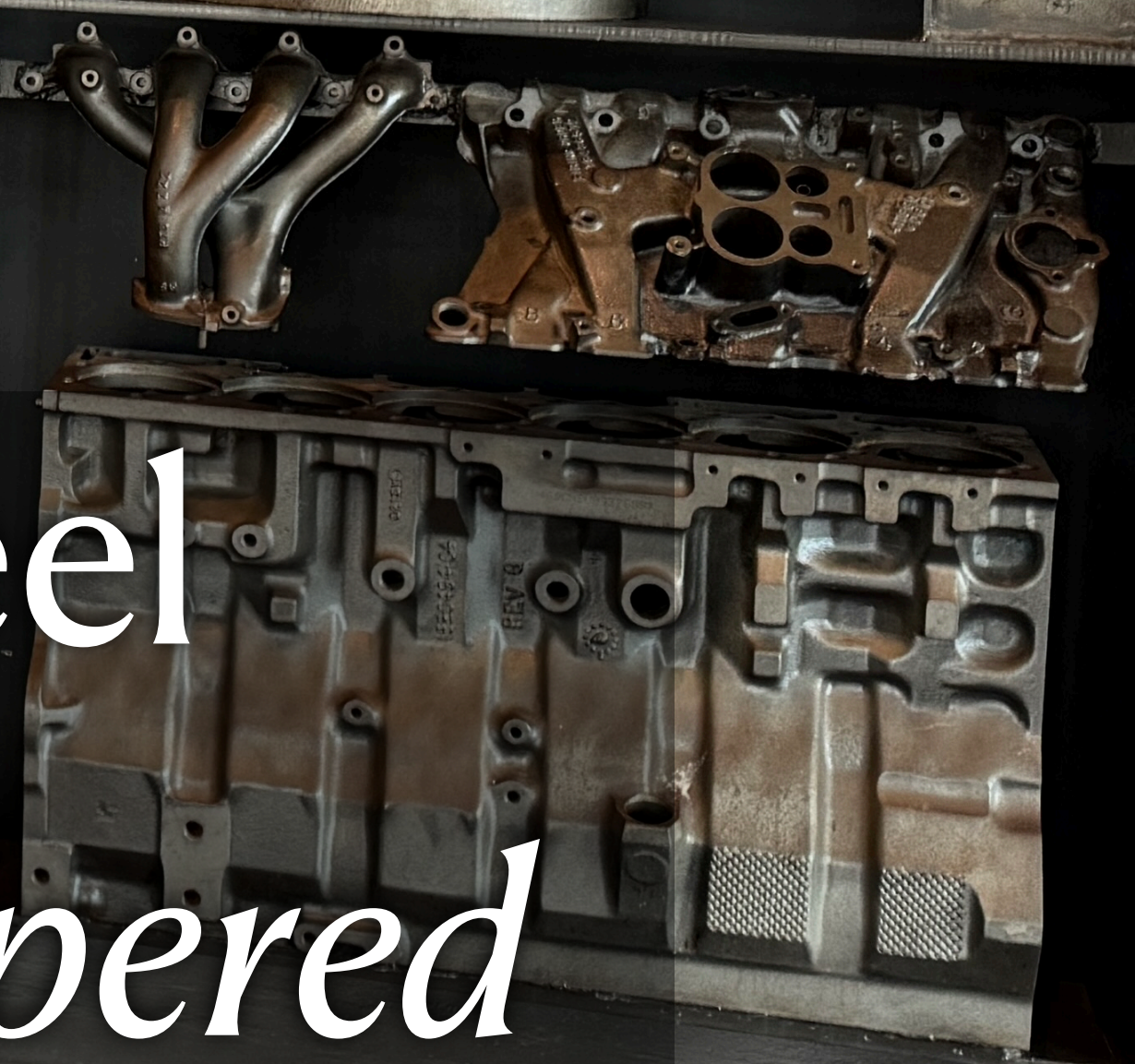


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Iron and Steel

Forged and Tempered



**Christ is tempering the
faith of the disciples!**



Mark 4:35-41



³⁵ On that day, when evening had come, He told them, “Let’s cross over to the other side of the sea.” ³⁶ So they left the crowd and took Him along since He was already in the boat. And other boats were with Him. ³⁷ A fierce windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking over the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸ But He was in the stern, sleeping on the cushion. So they woke Him up and said to Him, “Teacher! Don’t You care that we’re going to die?”

³⁹ He got up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Silence! Be still!” The wind ceased, and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰ Then He said to them, “Why are you fearful? Do you still have no faith?”

⁴¹ And they were terrified and asked one another, “Who then is this? Even the wind and the sea obey Him!”

Mark 4:35



³⁵ On that day, when evening had come, **He told them, “Let’s cross over to the other side of the sea.”**

Whose idea was it?

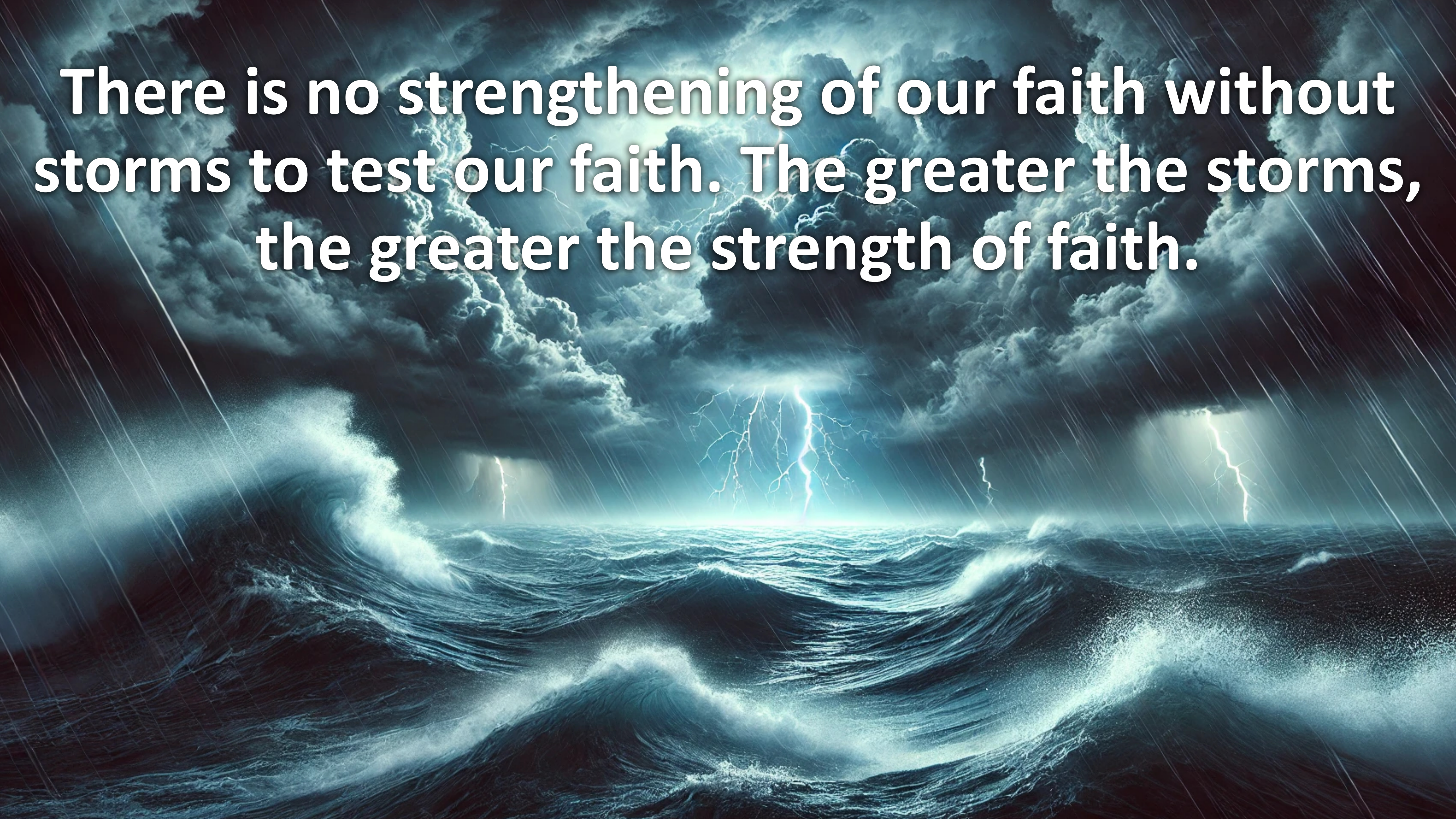
Mark 4:36-37



³⁶So they left the crowd and took Him along since He was already in the boat. And other boats were with Him. ³⁷A fierce windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking over the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped.

***How is Christ going to temper
the disciples faith?***

There is no strengthening of our faith without storms to test our faith. The greater the storms, the greater the strength of faith.



A Reminder...



***Christ said they would cross
the sea. He did not say they
would have smooth sailing!***

Mark 4:38-40



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³⁹ He got up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Silence! Be still!” The wind ceased, and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰ Then He said to them, “Why are you fearful? Do you still have no faith?”

***What are the disciples
thinking and feeling?***

Mark 4:38-40



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³⁹ He got up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Silence! Be still!” The wind ceased, and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰ Then He said to them, “Why are you fearful? Do you still have no faith?”

***Who is in your boat matters
more than the storm that is
around you!***

Mark helps us learn to trust
in a Savior who does not
deliver us from storms but
through the storms.



Psalm 107:23-32



²³Others went to sea in ships, conducting trade on the vast waters.

²⁴They saw the Lord's works, His wonderful works in the deep. ²⁵ He spoke and **raised a tempest** that stirred up the **waves** of the sea. ²⁶ Rising up to the sky, sinking down to the depths, **their courage melting away** in anguish, ²⁷ they reeled and staggered like drunken men, and **all their skill was useless**. ²⁸ Then they **cried out to the Lord** in their trouble, and He **brought them out** of their distress. ²⁹ He **stilled the storm** to a murmur, and the **waves of the sea were hushed**. ³⁰ They rejoiced when the waves grew quiet. Then **He guided them** to the harbor they longed for. ³¹ Let them give thanks to the Lord for His faithful love and His wonderful works for all humanity. ³² Let them exalt Him in the assembly of the people and praise Him in the council of the elders.

Mark 4:41



⁴¹ And they **were terrified** and asked one another, “**Who then is this?** Even the wind and the sea obey Him!”

***Do they still not get it?
Are they still not realizing
who Jesus is?***

Irony



***We can be like the disciples,
who were AWAKE and yet still
ASLEEP to the identity and
power of Jesus!***

The Lingering Question



Who then is this...?

Mark 5:1-9



¹Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the region of the Gerasenes.

²As soon as He got out of the boat, a man with an unclean spirit came out of the tombs and met Him. ³He lived in the tombs. No one was able to restrain him anymore—even with chains—⁴because he often had been bound with shackles and chains, but had snapped off the chains and smashed the shackles. No one was strong enough to subdue him. ⁵And always, night and day, he was crying out among the tombs and in the mountains and cutting himself with stones.

⁶When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and knelt down before Him. ⁷ And he cried out with a loud voice, “What do You have to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You before God, don’t torment me!” ⁸ For He had told him, “Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!”

⁹“What is your name?” He asked him.

“My name is Legion,” he answered Him, “because we are many.”

Mark 5:10-17



¹⁰ And he kept begging Him not to send them out of the region.

¹¹ Now a large herd of pigs was there, feeding on the hillside. ¹² The demons begged Him, “Send us to the pigs, so we may enter them.” ¹³ And He gave them permission. Then the unclean spirits came out and entered the pigs, and the herd of about 2,000 rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned there. ¹⁴ The men who tended them ran off and reported it in the town and the countryside, and people went to see what had happened. ¹⁵ They came to Jesus and saw the man who had been demon-possessed by the legion, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. ¹⁶ The eyewitnesses described to them what had happened to the demon-possessed man and told about the pigs. ¹⁷ Then they began to beg Him to leave their region.

Mark 5:18-20



¹⁸ As He was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed kept begging Him to be with Him. ¹⁹ But He would not let him; instead, He told him, “Go back home to your own people, and report to them how much the Lord has done for you and how He has had mercy on you.” ²⁰ So he went out and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and they were all amazed.



**Departure
Gerasenes**

Decapolis

Jerusalem



Mark 5:1-5



¹Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the **region of the Gerasenes**. ²As soon as He got out of the boat, a **man with an unclean spirit** came out of **the tombs** and met Him. ³He **lived in the tombs**. **No one** was able to restrain him **anymore—even with chains**—⁴because he often had been bound with shackles and chains, but had **snapped off the chains** and smashed the shackles. **No one was strong enough** to subdue him. ⁵And **always**, night and day, he was **crying out** among the tombs and in the mountains and **cutting himself** with stones.

How would you describe the man?

A thief comes only to steal and to kill and to destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it in abundance.

JOHN 10:10

The Situation



- 1. No one was able to restrain him anymore—even with chains...**
- 2. No one was strong enough to subdue him....**

No One + Anymore



HOPELESS!

Hope in Christ!



Jesus isn't a "no one,"

He is THE ONE!!!!

Mark 5:6-8



⁶When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and knelt down before Him.
⁷ And he cried out with a loud voice, “What do You have to do with me, **Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You before God, don’t torment me!**” ⁸ For He had told him, “Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!”

What does “begging” demonstrate?

The Answer at Last!



Who then is this...? (Mark 4:41)

Jesus, Son of the Most High God!!!

Mark 5:9-13



⁹“What is your name?” He asked him.

“My name is Legion,” he answered Him, “because we are many.”

¹⁰ And he kept begging Him not to send them out of the region.

¹¹ Now a large herd of pigs was there, feeding on the hillside. ¹² The demons begged Him, “Send us to the pigs, so we may enter them.” ¹³ And He gave them permission. Then the unclean spirits came out and entered the pigs, and the herd of about 2,000 rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned there.



Legion

10 Cohorts

120 Cavalry

5000 troops

*How many times does Legion
beg Jesus?*

3x

(Mark 5:7, 10, & 12)

How powerful is God that
He can allow the Enemy
to get what He wants
and still claim victory?





Mark 5:14-17



¹⁴ The men who tended them ran off and reported it in the town and the countryside, and people went to see what had happened. ¹⁵ They came to Jesus and **saw the man who had been demon-possessed** by the legion, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and **they were afraid**. ¹⁶ The **eyewitnesses described to them** what had happened to the demon-possessed man and told about the pigs. ¹⁷ **Then they began to beg Him to leave their region.**

Why do they beg Jesus to leave?

Mark 5:18-20



¹⁸ As He was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed kept begging Him to be with Him. ¹⁹ But He would not let him; instead, He told him, “Go back home to your own people, and report to them how much the Lord has done for you and how He has had mercy on you.” ²⁰ So he went out and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and they were all amazed.

HELLO

my name is

The Man who
had been

—————

Mark 5:18-20



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What did the man delivered beg for?

Why did Christ not oblige him?

*How do we handle
Christ's "No"s?*

How we handle Christ's "No" after begging Him will shape our life more than most anything else. It is the ultimate tempering of our faith!



PSALM 84:10-12

Better a day in Your courts than a thousand anywhere else. I would rather be at the door of the house of my God than to live in the tents of wicked people. For the LORD God is a sun and shield. The LORD gives grace and glory; He does not withhold the good from those who live with integrity. Happy is the person who trusts in You, LORD of Hosts!

Mark 5:18-20



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***Are we willing to be
Christ’s Ambassadors?***

***Our misery becomes
our ministry!***

Discussion



1. Have you ever faced a difficult season despite following God's leading? How did it impact your faith?
2. Why is it significant that Jesus didn't pray for the storm to stop but directly commanded it?
3. What does the reaction of the people in the town reveal about how people often respond to the power of Christ? Are there areas in your life where you struggle with letting Jesus "disrupt" your comfort?
4. The man wanted to stay with Jesus, but Jesus sent him back to his home as a witness. What does this teach us about how Jesus calls us to live out our faith?
5. How does this story illustrate both the destructive power of evil and the redemptive power of Christ? How can we share this message in our own lives?