

# Collision

## Week 3: When Darkness Collides with Deliverance

**Objective:** To invite the listener to trust surrender to Jesus and be set free.

**ICEBREAKER:** Think about a time when something had more control over your life than you wanted it to. What did that feel like?

### 1. Everyone Is Under Authority

The sermon said: *Authority is whatever you surrender to—and whatever you surrender to will shape your life.*

- What are some obvious authorities in our lives (work, laws, leadership)?
- What are some less obvious ones that shape how we live?
- How does this idea challenge the belief that we are “fully in control” of our lives?

### 2. Identifying Lesser Authorities

We defined “lesser authorities” as things that:

- Control you
- Isolate you
- Diminish you
- Which of those three is easiest for you to recognize in your own life?
- Why do lesser authorities often go unnoticed or unchallenged?
- What are some examples people commonly surrender to without realizing it?

### 3. The Man in the Tombs (Mark 5:1–20)

This man’s life was controlled, isolated, and diminished.

- What stands out to you about his condition before encountering Jesus?
- Why is it significant that he lived among the tombs (a place of death)?
- How does his story reflect what lesser authorities do to people today?

### 4. Jesus Enters “Enemy Territory”

Jesus crosses into a place considered unclean and confronts darkness directly.

- Why is it important that Jesus goes toward the problem instead of avoiding it?
- What does this reveal about His authority and mission?
- How does this change how you think about where Jesus is willing to meet you?

### 5. Naming What Has Power

Jesus asks the demon, “*What is your name?*”

- Why is naming something such a powerful step?
- What happens when we refuse to name what controls us?
- What might you need to name in your own life?

### 6. Surrender Leads to Freedom

We said: *When you name it and surrender it, it begins to lose its power.*

- Why does surrender feel difficult or counterintuitive?
- What’s the difference between losing control and giving control to Jesus?
- How does surrender actually lead to freedom?

### 7. Jesus Restores What Was Lost

After encountering Jesus, the man is restored—“in his right mind.”

- What does restoration look like in this story?
- What does Jesus restore that lesser authorities had taken?
- Where do you need restoration in your life right now?

### 8. From Freedom to Purpose

Jesus sends the man back to tell his story.

- Why do you think Jesus didn’t let him stay with Him?
- How does freedom naturally lead to mission?
- What might it look like for your life to “be the message”?



## **FINAL THOUGHT**

Lesser authorities always take—they control, isolate, and diminish. But Jesus restores—He brings freedom, identity, and purpose. The question is not whether something has authority in your life, but which authority you will surrender to: the one that enslaves you, or the One who sets you free.

## **THIS WEEK – NAME AND SURRENDER**

Take intentional time this week to confront what may be functioning as a lesser authority in your life.

- 1. Name it**
  - **Be specific (fear, addiction, approval, control, etc.)**
- 2. Expose it**
  - **Bring it into the light through prayer or trusted conversation**
- 3. Surrender it**
  - **Give it to Jesus daily, not just once**

Ask yourself:

- What is shaping my decisions right now?
- What is controlling or diminishing me?
- What would it look like to surrender this to Jesus today?

Remember:

**What lesser authorities take, Jesus restores.**

