What Man is This? Week 2: Lord Over the Spirits

Objective: To encourage to truly worship Jesus and experience His peace in our lives.

Read together:

They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes. 2 When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an <u>impure spirit</u> came from the tombs to meet him. 3 This man <u>lived in the tombs</u>, and no one could bind him anymore, 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. 5 Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.

6 When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and <u>fell on his knees in front of him</u>. 7 He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In God's name <u>don't torture me!</u>" 8 For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you <u>impure spirit!"</u>

9 Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?"

"My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many." 10 And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area.

11 A large <u>herd of pigs</u> was feeding on the nearby hillside. 12 The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them." 13 <u>He gave them permission</u>, and the impure 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. 15 When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, <u>dressed</u> and in his <u>right mind</u>; and they were afraid. 16 Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demonpossessed man—and told about the pigs as well. 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 <u>begged to go</u> <u>with him</u>. 19 Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your own people 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 <u>began to tell</u> in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all <u>the people were amazed</u>.

Mark 5:1-20

- Mark 5:1-20 is fundamentally a supernatural story. How do you feel about the supernatural? Why do you feel/think the way you do?
- Have you experience self-inflicted storms in your life? If you're comfortable, share about one of them with the group.
- When you think of the worship, what normally comes to your mind?
- According to the sermon, what is worship really? How does that differ from your usual understanding of worship?
- What is it about true worship that allows Jesus to bring peace to our lives?
- If you have experienced the renewing power of Jesus in your life, how were you transformed? (What's different now?)
- Who do you need to go and tell about what Jesus has done for you?

Final Thoughts: If we want to experience peace, we must learn to simply worship Jesus and let him calm the storm.

This Week: What is one thing you can do to acknowledge and honor Jesus with your life?

