

Sermon Notes and Discussion Questions: Living inSanity - Calm in the Midst of Chaos

Immediately after Jesus stepped out of the boat after sailing across the Sea of Galilee, a man possessed with demons confronted Him. This was not a routine possession, for this afflicted man was taken over by many demons; the demons had completely invaded his body. His existence was an extreme distortion of humanity. He wore no clothes, lived among the dead, and even chains couldn't shackle him. What's worse, the man was isolated from his community, driven to madness and hopelessness. When chaos, disfunction, and hopessness abound...

1. Come to Jesus - Admit your need for help

So many people miss this. Without admission we miss the hand and help of Jesus the "Son of the Most High God"

Name at least one area of your life where you know it is not where it needs to be? Why is it hard for people to come to Jesus with the chaos in their lives?

2. Identify the source of conflict

Jesus asks for the demons to identify themselves, and the possessed man called himself "Legion," the term referred to a large organized collection of soldiers who were connected to a greater army. In other words, these demons were a collection of evil spirits at war against this man, and through him against God. Yet they cowered and began to make the terms of their surrender when confronted by Jesus.

Why is important that we identify the source of conflict?

What happens when we do not identify the source of our conflicts?

What are some symptoms that people spend time, effort, and energy treating?

James 4 -Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? 2 You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask.

7 Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

3. Submit to truth at all costs

Do you agree that chaos is often present when misinformation is present?

Who is the source of confusion and chaos?

Why is it significant that the healed man begged to stay with Jesus?

Why is it significant that God sent him back to his hometown?

Why did the people from the town send Jesus away?