



JESUS, PART 7: OUTSIDERS

People ask a lot of questions. Who should I marry? Where should I live? What car should I buy? Where did I put my keys? While we will never be able to answer every question with confidence, can we have an answer for everyone? Christians aren't called to *have* an answer to everything, but to *be* an answer to everyone.

THE BIG IDEA: Your story could be the difference in someone's life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Tell your story of how you arrived at oneChurch.tv. Were you invited? By who?
2. Who have you invited recently to oneChurch.tv?
3. Share with the group when and how you were baptized. How did you feel about it? Share a brief version of your story.
4. Name a time in your life when you felt like you had to have all of the answers? What made you feel this way?
5. Some Christians have a real fear of outsiders (non-Christians) asking them questions for which they have no answers. Where does that fear come from?
6. Has anyone recently asked you a "God question" that you could not answer? What was the question?
7. *With your Bible or YouVersion, read and discuss Mark 5:1-20.*

¹ So they arrived at the other side of the lake, in the region of the Gerasenes. ² When Jesus climbed out of the boat, a man possessed by an evil spirit came out from the tombs to meet him. ³ This man lived in the burial caves and could no longer be restrained, even with a chain. ⁴ Whenever he was put into chains and shackles—as he often was—he snapped the chains from his wrists and smashed the shackles. No one was strong enough to subdue him. ⁵ Day and night he wandered among the burial caves and in the hills, howling and cutting himself with sharp stones. ⁶ When Jesus was still some distance away, the man saw him, ran to meet him, and bowed low before him. ⁷ With a shriek, he screamed, "Why are you interfering with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In the name of God, I beg you, don't torture me!" ⁸ For Jesus had already said to the spirit, "**Come out of the man, you evil spirit.**" ⁹ Then Jesus demanded, "**What is your name?**" And he replied, "My name is Legion, because there are many of us inside this man." ¹⁰ Then the evil spirits begged him again and again not to send them to some distant place. ¹¹ There happened to be a large herd of pigs feeding on the hillside nearby. ¹² "Send us into those pigs," the spirits begged. "Let us enter them." ¹³ So Jesus gave them permission. The evil spirits came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the entire herd of about 2,000 pigs plunged down the steep hillside into the lake and drowned in the water. ¹⁴ The herdsmen fled to the nearby town and the surrounding countryside, spreading the news as they ran. People rushed out to see what had happened. ¹⁵ A crowd soon gathered around Jesus, and they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons. He was sitting there fully clothed and perfectly sane, and they were all afraid. ¹⁶ Then those who had seen what happened told the others about the demon-possessed man and the pigs. ¹⁷ And the crowd began pleading with Jesus to go away and leave them alone. ¹⁸ As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon possessed begged to go with him. ¹⁹ But Jesus said, "**No, go home to your family, and tell them everything the Lord has done for you and how merciful he has been.**" ²⁰ So the man started off to visit the Ten Towns of that region and began to proclaim the great things Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed at what he told them.

Mark 5:1-20 (NLT)

8. In Mark 5, Jesus heals the demon-possessed man, whom Chris calls “Larry.” When “Larry” asked to leave with Jesus, he was told, “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.” What impact do you think Larry's story had on those who heard it?
9. Chris said, “*Christians aren't called to have an answer to everything, but to be an answer to everyone.*” Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?
10. May times people put off talking about Jesus because they think they don't know enough. How much did Larry actually know about Jesus? Do you think he had any questions lingering? Any doubts?
11. Who can you share your personal story with? What can this group do to support you?
12. Get on Facebook and thank the person (tag them) for bringing you to oneChurch, and tell how it has changed our life. #[onechurch.tv](https://www.facebook.com/onechurch.tv) @[onechurch.tv](https://www.facebook.com/onechurch.tv)

MOVING FORWARD

It is hard to resist someone's personal story. Facts can be disputed, but stories must be noted. Your personal story is an answer for everyone.

Practice telling your story to each other in your small group. Remember, your story should consist of three things:

1. *Your life before Jesus*
2. *How you met Jesus, and*
3. *How has Jesus made your life meaningful today?*

Identify three people you need to listen to their story, tell your story, and invite them into God's story. Set a date to share your story with them.

WEEKLY READING

Spend some time reading and reflecting on the following verses: Colossians 4:6, 1 Peter 3:15-17, Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:6-9, Romans 10:14-15