



Study Guide

Message:

“My Story, Your Sign.”

SCRIPTURE

Main Text:	Other Text:
<i>Mark 5:1-20</i>	<i>John 4:28-30, 39-41</i>

UNDERSTANDING THE STORY

*(This section focuses on understanding what the text means —
before jumping to what it means for us.)*

Read Mark 5:1-20

Main Idea: *The man's condition reveals total bondage—spiritually, socially, and personally.*

Commentary:

Mark presents this man as completely overtaken. Every detail Luke includes is intentional:

Living among the tombs → He is cut off from society and surrounded by death.

Uncontrollable strength → Even chains cannot restrain him, showing the severity of his condition.

Isolation → No one can help him; he exists outside normal human relationships.

Self-destructive behavior → He harms himself, reflecting deep internal torment.

This is not partial brokenness—it is total. The man has lost control of his life, identity, and place in the world. Human solutions have failed.

Discussion Questions:

1. What details does the passage give about the man's condition?
2. How does Mark emphasize the severity of his situation?
3. What do the failed attempts to restrain him reveal about human ability to fix his condition?

Takeaway:

Apart from Jesus, brokenness can define a person's identity and leave them without hope of restoration.

Read Mark 5:6–13

Main Idea: *Jesus confronts and overcomes what no one else could.*

Commentary:

When the man sees Jesus, he runs to Him—yet the voice that speaks is the demonic presence within him. This highlights the depth of his bondage.

The name “Legion” suggests a vast number, emphasizing the scale of oppression. What no one else could control, Jesus confronts directly.

Jesus’ authority is absolute:

He commands, and the demons respond.

There is no struggle or uncertainty—only authority.

This moment reveals that the man’s condition, though extreme, is not beyond Jesus’ power. His authority extends into the deepest levels of spiritual brokenness.

Discussion Questions:

1. What does the name “Legion” reveal about the man’s condition?
2. How does Jesus’ interaction with the demons demonstrate His authority?
3. Why is it significant that Jesus succeeds where others failed?

Takeaway:

No level of brokenness is beyond the authority of Jesus to confront and overcome.

Read Mark 5:14–17

Main Idea: *Transformation through Jesus is visible and undeniable.*

Commentary:

The townspeople encounter a completely different man:

Sitting → No longer restless or violent; he is at peace.

Clothed → His dignity has been restored.

In his right mind → He has clarity, stability, and wholeness.

Mark intentionally contrasts this with his earlier condition. The same man who was uncontrollable is now calm and restored.

Interestingly, the response of the people is fear—not celebration. The power of Jesus disrupts their expectations and comfort. They recognize something significant has happened, but instead of embracing it, they ask Jesus to leave.

Discussion Questions:

1. What specific changes are observed in the man?
2. How does Mark contrast his current state with his previous condition?

Takeaway:

Transformation through Jesus is real and visible.

Read Mark 5:18–20

Main Idea: Transformation leads to a new purpose—being sent to share what Jesus has done.

Commentary:

The man's desire is to stay with Jesus, which reflects genuine devotion. However, Jesus redirects him.

Instead of staying, he is sent:

“Go home” → Return to the very place where his brokenness was known.

“Tell them” → His story becomes his assignment.

“How much the Lord has done... and had mercy” → His message is centered on God's work, not his own effort.

The man obeys and becomes a witness throughout the region. His transformation is not the end of the story—it becomes the beginning of his mission.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why might the man have wanted to stay with Jesus?
2. What instructions does Jesus give him instead?
3. What is the focus of the message he is told to share?

Takeaway:

Jesus not only restores lives—He gives them purpose as witnesses of His mercy.

MAKE IT PERSONAL

Jesus doesn't just transform this man's life—He gives him a story to tell.

In Mark 5:19, Jesus tells him to go and share two things:

1. **What the Lord has done**
2. **The mercy he has received**

This gives us a clear framework for understanding our own story.

Your Story Has 4 Parts:

1. **Who I was (bondage)**
2. **How I met Jesus (encounter)**
3. **What changed (transformation)**
4. **What I'm doing now (purpose)**

Take time to reflect:

a. What has the Lord done for you?

Be specific. What actually changed when Jesus met you?

b. Where have you experienced His mercy?

Not just what you were saved from, but what you were given that you didn't deserve.

c. Who can you invite to "come and see"? (See the story of the Samaritan woman in John 4. Focus specifically on verses: 28-30, 39-41)

LIVING IT OUT

Let this passage move you from reflection to action this week:

1. Write your story down.

Use the four-part framework (before, encounter, change, now) to clearly articulate what Jesus has done in your life.

2. Focus on mercy.

Identify where God has shown you grace—not because you earned it, but because He is merciful.

3. Practice sharing your story.

Keep it simple and real. You don't need all the answers—just clarity about what Jesus has done for you!

4. Identify one person.

Ask God to bring someone to mind who needs hope, and be intentional about sharing your story with them.

5. Extend an invitation.

Like the woman in John 4, invite someone to “come and see.”
(It could be a conversation, a church service, etc.)

**These practices can help move the truth of this passage from something we understand to something that shapes the way we live.*

For LifeGroups:

ENCOURAGE EACH OTHER

Encourage each other by sharing your Jesus story using the four-part framework:

1. Who I was
2. How I met Jesus
3. What changed
4. What I'm doing now

Help each other simplify and clarify your story so it can be easily shared.

Pray together:

1. Thank God for the work He has done in each life.
2. Thank Him specifically for His mercy.
3. Pray for boldness and opportunity to share your story.
4. Pray for the people who will hear it—that they would encounter Jesus.