

# Luke 8:22-56 – 2 April 2023

## “Not The Way I Planned It”

### Introduction

\*Since Chap 4 Jesus is teaching of the Kingdom

\*Our part is to believe Him & His Word

\*”This is the work of God to believe on Him whom He hath sent” (John 6:29)

\*Martha “I am the resurrection & the life...do you believe this?” (John 11:25-26)

\*But what if our walk of faith believing in Jesus isn't going the way we expected it to go?

\*This is “Not The Way I Planned It”

**Today, here's 3 lesson to enable us to allow our faith to mature in our lives**

# 1<sup>st</sup> lesson is for when we didn't plan on it being scary: Then trust every Word of God (Vs 22-25)

Read Vs 22-25 – *Fearing the storm on the sea*

1. From Mark, “don't you care that we perish”?
  - a. Focusing on current events will cause us to doubt God's love for us
  - b. Fear will lead us to pray wrong questions
2. 3 ways they could have responded to storm
  - a. Let fear lead to drowning
  - b. Get a Word from Jesus
    - i. Which they did, but there's a better answer
  - c. Go w/ the Word they **ALREADY** received
3. Does this seem harsh that Jesus rebukes them?
  - a. Other Gospels add Jesus said, “Why are ye so fearful, how is it that you have no faith”?
4. Jesus said in vs 22, “let us go to the other side”
  - a. He doesn't lie
  - b. He doesn't exaggerate
  - c. We can have faith in exactly what He says

5. The Bible should be read for just what it says
  - a. Jesus said, “I am the God of Abraham...”
  - b. To Abe’s seed were the promises made, he sayeth not seeds.
6. Jesus us challenging us today to be believing
  - a. Act 16:25 – Paul & Silas in prison
  - b. Psm 3:1-3

**2<sup>nd</sup> lesson is for when we didn’t plan on it costing me money: See spiritual over the earthly (Vs 26-39)**

Read Vs 26-29 – *The demon Legion of Gadara*

1. Gadarenes were descendants of tribe of Gad that settled for God’s 2<sup>nd</sup> best (east of Jordan)
  - a. We’ll see they raised pigs, not kosher
  - b. Whole region was called Decapolis
2. They didn’t find a demon that needs attention
  - a. They found a man that needed help
  - b. Men can be saved, demons can’t

Read Vs 30

1. What was this demon Legion like?

- a. From vs 27: Lived among death
    - i. Christians represent life not death
  - b. From vs 28: Was out of control
    - i. Christians show the fruit of self-control, not spontaneous living for today
  - c. From vs 29: Had unusual physical strength
    - i. Christians are renewed w/ spiritual strength
2. What did the demon Legion know?
- a. He knows who Jesus is (vs 28 Son of God)
  - b. He knows his ultimate destiny (Mat 8:28 – ‘torment us before the time’)
  - c. He knows he has limited time
  - d. Demons have accepted these realities, but doesn’t mean that they agree with them

## Read Vs 31

1. The Bible talks of 4 places of banishment
  - a. Tartaroo – Angels bound at fall (II Pet 2:4)
  - b. Sheol (Hb) or Hades (Gr): transl. grave or hell – center of the earth & was divided into 2 (Matt 12:40, Luk 16)

- c. Abussos – Abyss: bottomless pit – in this vs
  - i. Locust-like demons come from here (Rev 9)
  - ii. Satan bound here for 1,000 yrs (Rev 20)
- d. Gehenna (Gr) – Lake of Fire – Outer Darkness – The Second Death

### Read Vs 32

- 1. Notice demons need permission to enter pigs
  - a. Certainly can't enter a person w/o permission

### Read Vs 33

- 1. Found Gadara in late '90s w/ this steep decline
- 2. So the people were trafficking in illegal swine
  - a. JOKE: First case of deviled ham! ha

### Read Vs 34-37

- 1. Some people get hung up on the loss of pigs
  - a. Pigs weren't Kosher & should have them
  - b. Animals are here to serve us – they just got turned into bacon sooner than they planned

2. Still thinking of the poor piggies, then you're over-valuing the pigs & undervaluing the man
  - a. This is exact reason they asked Jesus to leave
  - b. It's unjust to value unequal things equally
  - c. If your house is on fire, what will you save?

Read Vs 38-39

1. When Jesus changes you, you want to be with Him, but He wants you to evangelize
2. We're to speak of what God has done, not self

**3<sup>rd</sup> lesson is for when we didn't plan on it going this way – Allow God to choose the path (Vs 40-56)**

Read Vs 40-42 – *Two women of 12 years*

1. This is great faith & humility to come to Jesus
2. As a ruler, pride could have kept him from being vulnerable and getting the help he needed
  - a. Some go to hell for inability to publicize their need

## Read Vs 43-46

1. She's been isolated for 12 years (no church, no touch of a husband), she's crawled into a shell
  - a. Jesus is calling her to a public relationship
2. Being children of God isn't just getting from Jesus, but getting Jesus!
  - a. Jesus wants her to see Him face to face

## Read Vs 47-48

1. Matt tells us that she believed that if she could just touch His garment, she'd be made whole
  - a. False teaching of prayer clothes started here
  - b. Jesus said her faith had made her whole

## Read Vs 49-50

1. Was Jairus bothered that Jesus stopped to help the women?
  - a. He's challenging Jairus to go deeper in faith
  - b. Can Jesus only be effective in certain cases?
  - c. Can He do things w/ methods other than mine?

Read Vs 51-54a

1. No faith? Put out the unbelievers to not distract from the work of the Lord

Read Vs 54b-56

1. The real us is our spirit, we have a new body coming some day
2. Needed to eat: We Jesus gives us new life, we need to eat God's Word

## Conclusion

Has your walk of faith not gone the way you expected?

1. **Ever said, "I didn't plan on it being scary"**
  - a. Maybe just need to trust God's Word deeper
2. **Ever said, "I didn't plan on it costing me money"**
  - a. Maybe just need to value the spiritual benefit as way greater than the earthly cost
3. **Ever said, "I didn't plan on it going this way"**
  - a. Maybe we need to allow God to be God