



“From Fear to Faith”  
Small Group Questions  
Week of September 8, 2024

**Icebreaker:**

*What are you scared of? Do you have any phobias or illogical fears? Would you rather be covered with spiders or snakes?*

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Read Mark 5:1-5 and Luke 8:27: Why do you think Mark spends more time describing the demon-possessed man? What do we learn about this man and his background? How does the description of this man make you feel?
2. Who are the people in our society who are feared, looked down upon, or avoided? Can we learn anything from Jesus’ interaction with this man about what our posture should be towards other people?
3. This encounter in Mark 5 shows the power of Jesus over the demonic realm. Do you believe that demons exist? What does it look like for us to engage in spiritual warfare? How do we maintain a healthy view of demonic activity without seeking to attribute every bad thing to Satan or demons? Can you think of other Bible verses to support your position?
4. How do you feel about Jesus freeing the demon-possessed man at the expense of the herd of pigs? Do you think the soul of one man was worth the expensive loss? How might Jesus be asking you to give from your material wealth to see the lost come to know him?
5. Discuss this quote: “The reaction of the townspeople is fear, the same response the disciples had in the previous episode when Jesus calmed the sea (4:41). This is a normal response when witnessing the awesome power of God. The only question is what will they do with that fear: fall down before God to worship him and offer their service to him (cf. Isa 6:5), or seek to escape his presence?” (Mark Strauss) How do we ensure that our response of fear is directed toward worship and service instead of escape or rejection?
6. Read Mark 5:19 again: Spend some time sharing with each other what “the Lord has done for you” and “how he has had mercy on you.”