

Life Group Questions - Mark 5

UNDERSTANDING THE PASSAGE

1. *Main Idea of the Passage:* Power, Deliverance, and Awe
2. *How the main idea is developed:* Jesus faces an insurmountable obstacle, he overcomes the obstacle, a life is delivered, and witnesses stand in awe. (3x's)
3. *Melodic Line:* Repent and Believe in the Good News that Jesus is the Suffering Servant King, the Glorious Savior.

Outline

1. Three stories of power and deliverance
 - A. Demons: The demonized man (vv. 1-20)
 - B. Disease: The Woman who needed a healing touch (vv. 24b-34)
 - C. Death: Jarius' daughter (vv. 21-24a; 35-43)

Gospel Centrality

1. Jesus absorbs demons, disease, and death on the cross and in exchange gives us heaven, healing, and life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Warming Up

1. Have you ever been desperate? How did it make you "look up?"

Letting the Text Shape our Framework

1. Context: "The lecture" (4:1-34) flows into "the lab" (4:35-5:43) featuring four insurmountable obstacles: the calming of the sea, deliverance of demon possessed man, healing of diseased woman, and bringing girl back to life. This chapter goes to the core of the question, "Who is this man?"
2. Three stories of power and deliverance
 - A. Demons: The demonized man (vv. 1-20)
 - i. This is the most detail Mark gives in one passage. Why is that? What are the details that stand out?
 - ii. How do demons portray themselves in our Western culture? What type of "power" are they offering those who would follow them?
 - iii. How does this passage answer the question *Who is this man?* for the herdsman? For the delivered man?
 - iv. *Clothed and in his right mind* (v. 15) – How does this statement capture the essence of being human? How does this touch on *Creation, Fall, Redemption* narrative seen throughout the whole bible?
 - B. Disease: The woman who needed a healing touch (vv. 24b-34)
 - i. Which people group are on this side of the lake? Why is this an important feature?

- ii. How was this woman a “4th soil” type?
- iii. How does Jesus reveal that salvation is NOT transactional?
- C. Death: Jarius’ daughter (vv. 21-24a; 35-43)
 - i. What was the point of Mark’s intercalation of the diseased women story?
 - ii. What does this teach us about our posture of waiting and trusting in Jesus?
 - iii. The audience responded with *amazement* yet the little girl simply just started living her life again. How is salvation both sublime and ordinary, at the same time?

Traveling Through the Cross

1. In times of desperation where are you ultimately turning to? In times of normalcy, where are you ultimately turning to?

Applying This Passage to our Lives

1. What if you are not demon possessed and dealing with serious sickness like in this story — What does it mean then to be desperate for Jesus?
2. Does Jesus have you in a period of waiting? How are you doing with trusting him?
3. If you are in need of healing from sickness – pray for healing (request the elders to anoint you with oil and pray over you), but pray more for His glory in your life.
4. How can you individually and in community set yourself up to be in awe of Jesus?