

Mark 5:1-20 “The Servant Saves”

Please stand and open your bibles to Mark 5:1-8

Jesus is the Servant of mankind. Mark shows us that...

Mark 10:45

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.

As we touched on last time when we decide we are going to follow Christ. We have made that decision to be faithful to whatever He has for us. Whether it's serving in Sunday school or joining the Gideons to hand out scriptures you will face opposition. The enemy will do everything in his power to stop you. He knows he can't take away your salvation, but he can bring about a storm or storms to keep you from fulfilling the great commission. Our last lesson in Mark 4 had us in a boat on the way to where we are today. What happened? A storm came. Jesus rebuked the storm and they continued on their journey.

Ephesians 2:2

in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience.

Mark 5:1

Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes.

The * area that is mentioned here is known as the “Decapolis” or “Ten Cities”. It is on the east side of the sea of Galilee. Part of the area was originally inherited to the tribe of Gad. That is most likely where the name “Gadara” came from.

The Servant meets a slave

Mark 5:2-6

This is the reason that Jesus came across the lake. This is the reason for the opposition. It is funny that people act like we don't live in a time where we see demon possession. I can tell you that the similarities that we see in people today look an awful lot like what is described here.

<https://www.webmd.com/mental-health/features/cutting-self-harm-signs-treatment>

Cutting and Self-Harm: Warning Signs and Treatment

“Self-injury is not the problem, it is a symptom of something else,” says Michelle M. Seliner, owner and clinical director of S.A.F.E. (Self Abuse Finally Ends) Alternatives in St. Louis, MO. “This could be anxiety, depression, trauma, grief/loss, disordered eating, and poor impulse control.”

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/evidence-based-living/202205/why-teens-stop-listening-their->

[parents#:~:text=The%20take%2Dhome%20message%3A%20Neurological,but%20a%20normal%20developmental%20milestone.](#)

Why Teens Stop Listening to Their Parents

The teenage brain appears programmed to seek new voices.

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/drug-addiction/symptoms-causes/syc-20365112>

Drug addiction, also called substance use disorder, is a disease that affects a person's brain and behavior and leads to an inability to control the use of a legal or illegal drug or medicine.

We act like this is not happening around us. We want to call it a mental issue or a disease. The reality of it all is everything is a spiritual issue!

2 Timothy 2:25-26

...in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

2 Timothy 3:1-4

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, **disobedient to parents**, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, **without self-control**, brutal,

despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God.

I am not saying that every person with problems is demon possessed. But it is clear that we have a spiritual problem and if it is not dealt with the gospel message, if sin isn't brought to the cross, we open ourselves, our families and our friends to the demonic realm. Why are things so bad? Because we are looking everywhere else for the solution.

People will say "It can't be that easy!" or "Yeah, yeah, Jesus helps with our spiritual problems but this is a physical one" I can tell you from experience that demons are real. If you are messing with drugs, pornography, drinking too much you are at a real risk of opening a door you do not want to open. Whether you are a Christian and will suffer from Oppression or maybe you are not and can open yourself up to possession. This stuff is real and nothing to joke about. Jesus is the only answer for all our problems.

The Servant and the Slave Master
Mark 5:7-13

The first thing that stands out is the Demons know who Jesus is. The Demons know who you are. If you knew how much the demons knew you would be making sure you are as close to Jesus as you can be. If you remember in the book of Acts that some exorcists took it upon themselves to use the name of Jesus without knowing Him...

Acts 19:15

And the evil spirit answered and said, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?”

Another thing to note that all these demons know Jesus. They do not question His existence. The hardest people to reach are those who say they believe in God but have no relationship with Christ. We need to remember...

James 2:19

You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!

Notice they are imploring Jesus by God not to be tormented. We get more context...

Matthew 8:29

And suddenly they cried out, saying, “What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us **before the time?**”

Luke 8:31

And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the **abyss**.

The Demons know that a time of Judgement is coming. They know their final destination.

Matthew 25:41

Then He will also say to those on the left hand, “Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels”

They know it’s not their time yet. So, what do they do? Ask permission from Jesus! Demons can’t do anything to you without permission from your Savior.

Here are pictures of this area where this happened.

The Servant Saves!

Mark 5:14-20

Jesus does what no one could. He always does that. But as He does it is not always well received. They were more concerned about the swine than the soul. Happens all the time and don’t let it stop you.

John 3:19-20

And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

Romans 1:19-20

...because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the

things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse

They know God exists. They see what's happened to you. But they don't want anything to do with it. It is a sad thing to find out that family members liked you better the way you were. I have family members I have let know that I have been saved and they are not interested at all. * But Jesus did not want to leave them without a witness, so He has the man stay behind. Tell your family, tell everyone. Jesus does not have to worry about whether it is His time yet or not as most of these people are gentiles. He will come back at another time, and they will flock to Him. I like to think it's because of this man! Go and share your story! Remember Jesus told us...

Matthew 5:16

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Acts 1:8

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

All a witness has to do is tell their story. You don't need a college degree. You don't need to be an expert in the Bible. You don't have to make a quick sale or be persuasive. All you have to do is tell everyone the wonderful things Jesus has done in your life. It's

easy and anyone can do it. You have the Holy Spirit and a story to tell and believe me that is enough to change the world!

Gospel with a focus on God's ability to deliver us from all our sin.