

SERMON NOTES: THE DEMONIAK OF GERASENES

Series: Luke: The Gospel of Knowing For Sure

Date: November 1st, 2015

Text: Luke 8: 26-39

Theme: Assurance in the midst of spiritual conflict. Jesus demonstrates His authority over even the realm of the demonic.

1. A nightmare in a graveyard (v 26-27)

- a. A demonized _____.
- b. Sin's effect on all _____.

2. A legion of Demons (v 28-31)

- a. The scriptural _____ of the demonic
- b. Making too much or too little of the _____.

James 1:14

3. When pigs fly (v 32-33)

- a. A divine _____.
- b. Jesus' _____ over the forces of evil

4) The Epilogue: Two responses to Jesus' authority (v 34-39)

- a. The _____
- b. The _____

SMALL GROUP HOME WORK:

These questions will help prepare you for your Small Group session this week – so bring your answers with you to your Small Group meeting.

RELATE:

If you could be “free” from one thing in your life right now, what would you request?

REFLECT:

1. In what ways does this story (Luke 8:26-39) relate to the previous incident in which Jesus calmed the sea?
2. What do you think it says about Jesus and the Gospel that He sails to this Gentile region with his disciples?
3. Where is “across the lake” for you (a person, place, people, relationship, environment, etc.)? Are there places you might not expect or even want God to do his work?
4. The man in this story is living in “the tombs.” This was considered the most defiled and unclean place of all. Discuss some of the parallels between this man’s condition and our condition as being “...dead in sin...” See Eph 2:1
5. Sometimes when we read about demon possession we think in terms of all or nothing. The truth is that evil forces are constantly trying to control our lives, often very subtly. Discuss what you can learn about this in these verses: Eph 6:12; 2Cor.11:14-15.
6. One author I read this week said some of us are like the disciples (from last week’s story): we’re with Jesus, but don’t know who He is. Some of us are like the demons: we know who He is, but we aren’t really with Him. Which are you like? Why?
7. What was the symbolism in the pigs drowning in the lake? What did the tumultuous waters of Lake Galilee represent in our last story? See Rev. 13:1; 21:1
8. Why do you think the people of the town, after seeing what Jesus has done for this man, tell Him to leave? What is it about Jesus that is so threatening to them? Is Jesus threatening to any area of your life?

RESPOND:

I love how Jesus sends this man home to tell his story. Where is God asking you to go tell people about Him and what He has done for you?

Why won't Jesus allow the former demoniac to follow Him?