

How Can I Be a Missionary Where I Live?

Lesson 32

Mark 5:1-20

Memory Verse

We cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard. Acts 4:20

Introduction

Have you ever seen a person change and become totally different than they were? Today's lesson shows us how one man changed when he met Jesus.

Scripture

Mark 5:1-9

They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes. When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an evil spirit came from the tombs to meet him. This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him any more, not even with a chain. For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.

When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him. He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!" For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you evil spirit!"

Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?"

"AAAAH"

"Did you hear that?" said one of Jesus' friends nervously as he stepped out of the boat.

"What was that noise?" the others said.

Suddenly a crazy man ran towards them.

"What do we do?" they said frightened.

Jesus remained calm and peaceful. He knew that God brought this man to them for a reason. Jesus knew that the man had crazy spirits inside him. They caused him to do crazy things. People tried to chain him up, but he was so strong that he would always break the chains. He lived in the graveyard and would often cut himself with rocks or scream out loudly.

When the man got to Jesus, he fell at Jesus' feet and shouted as loud as he could, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God?" Then the spirits asked Jesus not to hurt them. They begged Jesus not to send them out of the area.

Ask: What did the evil spirits say to Jesus?

Don't hurt us.

Mark 5:9

Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?"

Ask: What was Jesus' response?

Jesus asked them for their name?

Mark 5:9-12

"My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many." And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area. A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside.

Ask: What did the evil spirits say to Jesus?

They said that their name was Legion. Then, they saw some pigs feeding on a hill. They asked Jesus to send them into the pigs. Jesus agreed.

Mark 5:13

He gave them permission, and the evil spirits came out and went into the pigs.

Ask: What did the evil spirits do?

The spirits went into the pigs. There were about 2,000 pigs on the hill. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

Mark 5:14

Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened.

Ask: What did the men tending the pigs do?

The people who were taking care of the pigs saw what happened; they were shocked. They told all the people in the town what had happened.

The people couldn't believe that all the pigs had died. They had to come see for

Mark 5:15

When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid.

Ask: What the reaction of the people?

The people couldn't believe that all the pigs had died. They had to come see for themselves. When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been crazy. However, this time he was different. He was sitting peacefully and calm by Jesus. When the people saw this, they were afraid.

Mark 5:16-17

Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demon-possessed man—and told about the pigs as well. Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region.

Ask: What did they do?

The people who saw what happened to the man shared the news with the newcomers. They also told them about the pigs.

When the people heard what happened, they begged Jesus to leave.

Mark 5:18

As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him.

Ask: What was the reaction of the man who had been demon-possessed?

As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been crazy asked to go with Jesus.

Mark 5:19

Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you."

Ask: What did Jesus say to him?

Jesus did not let him go, but said, "Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you and how he cared for you."

Mark 5:20

So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.

Ask: What did the man do?

The man went away and began to tell people all over the area how much Jesus had done for him.

Ask: What was the reaction of the people to the testimony of the man who had been demon-possessed?

All the people who listened were amazed at what Jesus had done.

The crazy man was changed because of Jesus. When we believe in Jesus, He changes us too. Instead of doing things our way, we want to obey God. Instead of focusing on ourselves, we want to help others. Just like the man, we will want to tell others about how Jesus changed us.

Ask: Would you like to invite Jesus to be a part of your life?

God wants to change our lives and our hearts. God wants us to know Him and to know His love. God does not force us to follow Him. God waits for us to invite Him to be a part of our lives.

Romans 10:9-10

That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Romans 10:9-10 tell us that we need to do two things. First, we have to confess with our mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord. Second, we have to believe in our heart that God has raised him from the dead. Then we will be saved and we will have a new life.