

## **Jesus Vs. The Demonic Darkness**

### **Discussion Questions for Mark 5:1-20**

#### **Open It**

When was the last time you had such wonderful news that you could not wait to tell someone about it?

What do people today think of the devil and demons?

What makes people resistant to talking about God or religion?

#### **Explore It**

Where did the events of this story take place? (5:1)

To what Gentile (non-Jewish) area did Jesus and His disciples go? How? (5:1)

Who went out to meet Jesus? (5:2)

What was the man's life like before he met Jesus? (5:3-5)

How had the townspeople coped with the demon-possessed man Jesus met? (5:4)

Why was the man Jesus met chained up? (5:4-5)

How did the demon-possessed man react to Jesus? (5:6-7)

Why were the demons so terrified of Jesus? (5:7)

How did Jesus treat the man He met? (5:8-20)

What did Jesus do to help the demon-possessed man? (5:8-20)

What do Jesus' actions tell us about His character? (5:8-20)

What did the demons beg of Jesus? (5:10)

What happened when the demons asked to go into the pigs? (5:11-13)

How did news of this event spread? (5:14-16)

What was the man's life like after Jesus ordered the demons out of him? (5:15-20)

What did the Gerasene people think of Jesus' gracious action on the man's behalf? (5:17)

Where did the man whom Jesus had helped want to go? (5:18)

What request did Jesus deny? Why? (5:18-19)

How did the man respond to Jesus' instructions? (5:19-20)

#### **Get It**

The Gerasene people opposed Jesus even though He helped them; why do people sometimes oppose Christians today?

What are some ways that Satan tries to keep Christians from sharing the message of Christ with others?

Over what areas of our lives does Jesus have power and authority?

What are some concrete ways we can turn over control of our lives to Christ?

What does God want to deliver us from?

If you had been in the same situation as the Gerasene people, how would you have reacted to Jesus' healing of the demon-possessed man?

When and where do you tend to receive opposition to talking about God or religion?

What can we do to overcome resistance to the message of Christ?

What sometimes causes us to oppose what God wants?

What does Jesus' treatment of the man in this story tell us about his care for people?

How does the man's actions after Jesus delivered him from demon-possession serve as an example to us?

When has the Lord delivered you from a sickness or difficulty in your life? How did you react?

How can we show gratitude to God for what He has given us?

With whom do you think you should share the good news of Jesus?

**Apply It**

What can you do this week to bring the message of Christ to a friend or coworker?

What is one area of your life that you can ask God to heal?

How can you say thank you to God for the way He has worked in your life?