



Part 4: From Wrecked to Restored

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October 12 & 13, 2013

Mark 5:1-20 (English Standard Version)

They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. ² And when Jesus had stepped out of the boat, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit. ³ He lived among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain, ⁴ for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him. ⁵ Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out and cutting himself with stones.

⁶ And when he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and fell down before him. ⁷ And crying out with a loud voice, he said, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me." ⁸ For he was saying to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!"

⁹ And Jesus asked him, "What is your name?"

He replied, "My name is Legion, for we are many." ¹⁰ And he begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country.

¹¹ Now a great herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, ¹² and

they begged him, saying, "Send us to the pigs; let us enter them." ¹³ So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the pigs; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned in the sea.

¹⁴ The herdsmen fled and told it in the city and in the country. And people came to see what it was that had happened. ¹⁵ And they came to Jesus and saw the demon-possessed man, the one who had had the legion, sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. ¹⁶ And those who had seen it described to them what had happened to the demon-possessed man and to the pigs. ¹⁷ And they began to beg Jesus to depart from their region.

¹⁸ As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him. ¹⁹ And he did not permit him but said to him, "Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you."

²⁰ And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled.

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Next Steps:

Baptism. If you are a follower of Jesus and haven't yet been baptized it's not too late! Come forward after the service to see if baptism is the right step for you today.

Read and reread: Mark 5:1-20 when you go home tonight.

Share. Tell one person in your world what the Lord has done for you and the ways that Jesus has had mercy on you.

Small Group Questions

- 1) What's the most violent natural storm you've been in? What was it like?
- 2) Why do you think Jesus chose a wrecked man to be his first "sent ambassador" of his kingdom?
- 3) What are some of the storms (troubles) in your life right now? What do you think Jesus would say about those storms if you could meet with him face to face?
- 4) Who are the wrecked people in your life right now that Jesus would send you to saying, "Go tell them what I've done for you?"
- 5) Do you struggle to believe that Jesus can overcome the wreckage in your life? Discuss your struggles with each other and share with one another some of the storms Jesus has seen you through. Don't try to solve someone else's problems or fix each other — just share what Jesus has done for you as an encouragement.
- 6) How can we pray for you?

OUR MISSION | To create an authentic Christian community that effectively reaches out to unchurched people in love, acceptance and forgiveness so that they may experience the joy of salvation and a purposeful life of discipleship.