

## Questions for reflection & discussion

Summarize the message in your own words.

- What stood out for you?

### Read Mark 5

We see several people and groups:

- The demoniac
  - The people in the neighbourhood
  - Jairus
  - The sick daughter
  - The crowd of mourners
  - The woman who was hemorrhaging
  - The disciples
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- Who do you most identify with and why?
  - What needs does Jesus meet in these people's lives?
  - What do we learn about Jesus in these healings?
  - What emotions are common in this chapter?
  - How is faith expressed in these instances?
  - Which one(s) struck you the most?
  - Which one(s) are you still thinking through?

Remember chapter & verse markers are not part of the original text

**Mark 4** ends with the account of Jesus' power over creation

**Mark 5** begins with the account of Jesus' power over demons.

- Why do you think these storms are placed together?
  - The calming of external and internal storms
  - This story would have been especially difficult for a Jewish person to appreciate.  
It's full of unclean things.  
It takes place in Gentile territory, with a man so demon possessed he's chained up in a graveyard and cutting himself (death, blood, etc.).  
Essentially, it's Jesus saving the worst of the worst from the worst part of town.
- Do we have areas of prejudice in our lives?  
How has he revealed/changed the way you think about people from certain backgrounds, races, income levels, or occupations?  
Some say that Christians shouldn't be talking about prejudice and believe that when we do so we might be "adding to

the Gospel." How might you respond to that claim?

The power of the gospel to restore can be scary.

- In what way(s)?
- Why do you think some people reject the gospel because of intruding power?
- There is a fear that leads to faith and a fear that leads to rejection.
- Because of the authority of Jesus, the demands of Jesus cannot be casually chosen or trivially ignored.

When the **woman** with the hemorrhage came to Jesus,

- she was clothed in shame & rejection & hopelessness.

When **Jairus** came to Jesus,

- he was clothed in grief and desperation.

When Jesus touched them

- their lives were transformed and their clothing changed.

This woman's life as an outcast was restored as the life of a normal woman.

- Her clothing changed.

Jairus' life as a mourner

became the restored life of a joyful parent.

- His clothing changed.

Are you ready for a clothing change?

## REFLECTING ON & LIVING IT OUT THIS WEEK

- Looking over this chapter of Mark, how does Jesus model for us different ways of announcing – proclaiming – living in the kingdom of God?
- How has this passage expanded your view of what God can do and is doing, to teach, heal and defeat the forces of evil?

Listen again to the song "*We Seek Your Kingdom*" This song affirms that no sphere of life is exempt from Christ's redemptive work. It's a powerful reminder that God is interested and active in all areas of society, spurring us to seek transformation wherever we are – in our workplaces, homes, communities, and beyond.

## Pray the Lord's | Disciples | Kingdom prayer

- Praying big 'macro' prayers, that God's kingdom would be increasingly evident in our society and institutions, our nation and our world.
- Pray 'micro' prayers for one another, that you would know his presence with you as you seek God's kingdom on your frontline this week.

