

THE GOSPEL OF  
**mark**

**Lead Us or Leave Us?**  
**Mark 5:1-20**

“The greatest trick the devil ever pulled was  
convincing the world he didn’t exist.”

Charles Baudelaire

**Healed**

“When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an evil spirit  
came from the tombs to meet him... Jesus said to him,  
**‘Come out of this man, you evil spirit!’**”

Mark 5:2, 8

**Frightened**

“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.**”

Mark 5:16-17

**Sent**

“As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been  
demon-possessed begged to go with him. Jesus did not let  
him, but said, **‘Go home to your own people and tell them  
how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had  
mercy on you.’** 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.”*

Mark 5:18-20

**Reflections**

Will you let Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ your life or ask him to  
\_\_\_\_\_ you alone?

## Gospel of Mark: Lead Us or Leave Us?

Questions based on Sermon from February 4, 2024

### Getting to Know Me

1. Pick a favorite leisure time activity. Why do you like it?
2. What impacted you about the baptisms on Sunday? Which story challenged or encouraged you?

### Digging Deeper

3. What new insight or information did you learn from hearing Pastor Phil's sermon this Sunday? What did you wrestle with?
4. When you think of the spiritual realm and the reality of spiritual warfare, what feelings or struggles come to mind for you?
5. Read Mark 5:1-9 then discuss the following:
  - Why did the man run to Jesus and how do you think he recognized who Jesus was?
  - What do you think is the significance of the names used here (the demon recognizing "Jesus, Son of the Most High God" and Jesus learning the demon's name "Legion")?
6. Read Mark 5:9-13 together. When you see the impact of these demons on this man in vv. 3-5 and then on the pigs in v. 11-13, what do you learn about evil?

7. Read 1 Peter 5:8-9 and Ephesians 6:10-12. Satan creates chaos and destruction. Where do you see chaos and destruction in your world? Do you recognize this as a spiritual battle? What should our response be?
8. Read Mark 5:14-17. What was the response of the townspeople to Jesus? What do you think the townspeople were focused on or concerned about that made them want Jesus to leave? Is there something in your life you would like Jesus to leave alone?
9. Read Luke 5:18-20. What was the man's response when he was freed from the demons? How did the man respond when Jesus said no to his request? What did Jesus ask the man to do?
10. Look ahead at Mark 7:31-37. How did this man's obedience to be a witness in his hometown prepare hearts to receive Jesus?
11. How has the mercy of Jesus changed your story? Have you changed another's story by sharing God's mercy?

### Going Deeper:

This week, think about what areas in your life you need to surrender to His lordship. Find someone in your growth group who will pray with you and help you stay accountable to growing in your faith and trust.

### Prayer

*God, we see your power over our world and the spiritual realms. Help us to recognize the spiritual battles around us and to put on Your armor and stand firm. Thank you for Your grace and mercy. Give us the courage to share Your story. Amen.*

*We exist to glorify God by guiding people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.*

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