

JUST JESUS: A Journey Through Mark PART 15 - Mark 5:11-20

The Unclean Land and the Unclean Man

READ: Mark 5:11–13 and Ephesians 6:10–13

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why do you think Jesus deliberately crossed into Gentile, unclean territory? What does that tell us about His mission?
- 2) How does the symbolism of pigs as "outwardly clean but inwardly corrupt" challenge us today?
- 3) What are some "unclean" or spiritually dark places in our lives or world that Jesus may be calling us to engage with, rather than avoid?
- 4) Why do you think Jesus gave the demons permission to enter the pigs? What do you personally believe happened to them afterward?
- 5) The pigs died almost instantly—do you think that points to judgment on the pigs, the demons, or the unclean economy they supported?

The Town's Fearful Response

READ: Mark 5:14–17 and John 3:19–21

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why were the townspeople more afraid of Jesus than of the demon-possessed man?
- 2) Have you ever seen someone reject Jesus not out of disbelief but out of fear of what He might ask them to give up?
- 3) In what ways are we tempted to cling to our "pigs" (comforts, compromises) rather than welcome the presence of Jesus?
- 4) The townspeople beg Jesus to leave. How does this mirror the demons' plea earlier in the story? What's the irony?
- 5) Jesus cast out demons, but the people cast out Jesus. Is there any part of your life where you've done the same?

The Delivered Man's Desire

READ: Mark 5:18-19 and Revelation 12:11

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why do you think Jesus told the man he couldn't come with Him, unlike the other disciples?
- 2) What does this tell us about different types of callings traveling vs. staying?
- 3) Why is a personal story of mercy sometimes more powerful than a theological explanation?
- 4) Jesus sent this man back into the very region that had rejected Him. How might that apply to you?
- 5) Personal Reflection from Sermon: What story of mercy has God given you to share and where might He be sending you to tell it?

The First Gentile Evangelist

READ: Mark 5:20 and 1 Corinthians 1:26–29

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) What stands out to you about this man becoming the first evangelist to the Gentile world?
- 2) How does this challenge the idea that we need formal training or perfection before we can share our faith?

- 3) Think of the last time someone's personal transformation impressed or amazed you. What made their story powerful?
- 4) Have you ever believed that your past disqualified you from being used by God? How does this passage confront that belief?
- 5) What "tombs" has Jesus rescued you from and who is still waiting to hear that story?