

DISCUSSION GUIDE

THY KINGDOM COME

DISCUSSION GOAL



Discuss what it looks like for Jesus to restore people who seem beyond help and how Jesus' reign over darkness can give us hope. Discuss what it looks like to have your dignity restored after accepting Jesus' forgiveness of sins. Help your members recognize how their testimonies can impact others for God' kingdom.

ICE BREAKER



Have you or friend ever experienced a major transformation...a huge weight loss, home renovation, car overhaul, make over? Share some details of the transformation with your group.

TEXT



Have a member of your group read the passage aloud.

Mark 5:1-20 ESV

¹ 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.

(Turn to the ESV Bible to continue reading verses 11-20)

MESSAGE OUTLINE



This is what our pastoral team observed about the passage.

Big Idea: Jesus reigns over the demonic realm.

Key Question: How does Jesus deliver us from the powers of darkness?

1. He removed our uncleanness. (vv. 1-13)
2. He restores our humanity. (vv. 14-17)
3. He commissions us for ministry. (vv.18-20)

THY KINGDOM COME WEEK 6



DISCUSSION



- The story in this passage demonstrates Jesus' authority over the demonic realm and darkness. Have you ever experienced Jesus' power over darkness? Perhaps he delivered you from a season of depression or a struggle with anxiety or fear. If so, what did it look like?
- Because of his demon-possession the man in this passage had been written off by all those around him. Have you ever experienced people giving up on you? Or have you ever written someone off thinking they're "too far gone" to help? How does this passage challenge your thinking? How does the grace and forgiveness shown by Jesus in this story challenge your view of hopeless situations, people or seasons?
- After the man was delivered by Jesus, Mark tells us that he was returned to his right mind and was clothed (v.15). How have you experienced God's grace restoring your dignity?
- In verse 19, Jesus tells the man to "Go home to your friends and tell how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you". What impact do you think his story made on his friends? How can sharing your testimony be a powerful way of witnessing to others?
- Have someone read John 8:12 and Matthew 5:14-16 out loud to the group. We live in a dark world that can feel discouraging. How do the verses you just read, coupled with today's passage, encourage you as a believer?

LIFE APPLICATION



Jesus has authority over the demonic realm and had the power to deliver us from darkness. In light of today's discussion, what next step do you need to take as a group to respond to God's truth.

Jot your ideas below and send a picture to your group to remind everyone of your action steps this week.

PRAYER REQUESTS


