

Go Home

When we think about the gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John – Mark isn't usually the first place we go. Yet Mark, listening to the eyewitness accounts of Peter, wrote a fast-paced gospel sharing the miraculous things Jesus did, including His death and Resurrection, to convince his Roman readers that Jesus is the Son of God. Let's not overlook what we can learn about our Savior in the overlooked gospel.



INTRODUCTION

As part of our “Overlooked Gospel” series, today’s sermon delves into Mark 5. This chapter of the overlooked gospel reveals that we are in a spiritual battle; however, the good news is that it’s not a fair fight.

STARTER QUESTION

The Bible is always relevant to what we face today, and the drama in Mark 5 is no different. Like the possessed man, have you ever found yourself outmatched in a situation? How did you handle it?

INTO THE WORD

Read Isaiah 58:9-10. David said that demon possession in the Greek was the word for oppressed. What is the definition of oppression? How does Isaiah 58:9-10 say we should respond to oppression? Replace the words “darkness” and “night” with “Covid-19”/our response to Covid-19. Discuss your thoughts.

Read Mark 5:11-13; Isaiah 45:23-24; and 1 John 4:4. How do these verses all offer proof that Jesus has all authority? In what way can we use these verses to negate Satan’s whispered lies of “Did God really say that?”

Read Mark 5:15-18. Compare the response of the people to the response of the possessed man after Jesus drives the demons into the pigs. Has there been a time when Christians or the Church has responded with fear when Jesus shows more care for people than possessions? How can we fight against this attitude?

APPLICATION

Unlike the people in Mark 5:15-18, God wants us to not be afraid and to just believe. Journal or share a time when you chose faith over fear, even when it didn’t necessarily make sense. What was the outcome?

While Satan wants to use our past against us, God wants to use our past to prove His love and forgiveness. How can believers allow people to safely discuss their past and current struggles without feeling alienated or unwelcome?

In Mark 5:19, why didn’t Jesus let the healed man go with Him? Discuss or journal about a time when you were redirected by Jesus even though you wanted to go elsewhere with Him.

PRAYER

Thank you for victory in Jesus. Let us not forget that you have already won, and help us to stay faithful. Lead us in the small and big ways we can live out our faith at home for a positive impact on those closest to us.