

Confronting Evil
Mark 5:1-20

Neil Trainer
January 12, 2020



NOTES

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Suggested Questions for Individual
Study or Group Discussion*



- What are stereotypical portrayals of demons and evil spirits in books, films, and television? How do these portrayals align with Scripture?
- *Read Mark 5:1-20.* If you were a disciple getting out of the boat with Jesus, what thoughts, feelings, and desires would you have experienced as the man ran toward you? How would that be different when you got back into the boat to leave?
- From Jesus' interaction with the demoniac, what can you deduce about the nature, power, and work of demons?
- In his response to the man, what does Jesus reveal about his authority and his mercy?
- Why do the townspeople react as they do? How do you think you would have responded? Why do they ask Jesus to leave?
- Why might Jesus have told the man he could not come with him? What instruction does he give him instead? What is the result (5:20; cf. 6:53-56)?
- When have you been aware of the presence or influence of evil? How did you respond? How will lessons from this Scripture affect future responses?
- How might Jesus' parting command to the man (5:19) be an example for us? With whom might the Lord be asking you to share about the mercy He has shown you? How will you do that? How can your small group or others support and pray for you as you do?

For Family Discussion: Ask: *Why do some people hurt others or hurt themselves?* Read Mark 5:1-20. Ask: *How would you describe the man who meets Jesus? How does Jesus help him? What does Jesus ask him to do at the end of the story? How can we do that too?*

*Select or adapt questions to fit the needs and makeup of your group.

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