

Re.Mark.Able Study  
Week 13, Day 1

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for another opportunity to learn about Your Son's Re.Mark.Able journey on this earth and Your amazing power over satan. Lord, I look to you for another week of learning about You and listening for the Holy Spirit's guidance in my life.

As you read the verses that follow, answer these questions and then compare your answers with those that follow.

Who is in the text?  
What is happening in the text?  
When does the story take place?  
Where does the story take place?  
Why is this story in the Bible?  
How does this story relate to me and my life?

**Mark 5:1-20 New King James Version (NKJV)**

**5:1** Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes. **2** And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, **3** who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no one could bind him, not even with chains, **4** because he had often been bound with shackles and chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him. **5** And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones.

**6** When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped Him. **7** And he cried out with a loud voice and said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God that You do not torment me."

**8** For He said to him, "Come out of the man, unclean spirit!" **9** Then He asked him, "What is your name?"

And he answered, saying, "My name is Legion; for we are many." **10** Also he begged Him earnestly that He would not send them out of the country.

**11** Now a large herd of swine was feeding there near the mountains. **12** So all the demons begged Him, saying, "Send us to the swine, that we may enter them." **13** And at once Jesus gave them permission. Then the unclean spirits went out and entered the swine (there were

*about two thousand); and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and drowned in the sea.*

**14** *So those who fed the swine fled, and they told it in the city and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that had happened. 15 Then they came to Jesus, and saw the one who had been demon-possessed and had the legion, sitting and clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. 16 And those who saw it told them how it happened to him who had been demon-possessed, and about the swine. 17 Then they began to plead with Him to depart from their region.*

**18** *And when He got into the boat, he who had been demon-possessed begged Him that he might be with Him. 19 However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you." 20 And he departed and began to proclaim in Decapolis all that Jesus had done for him; and all marveled.*

Who: Jesus, The Legion(the man and the many demons inside the man), the disciples, swine(pigs)

What: A demon possessed man from a region of unbelievers runs to Jesus as soon as he sees him. Jesus heals the man and when the man asks to join Him, he is told to stay behind and tell others about the Savior who changed his life.

When: Prior to this event, we see Jesus involved in another very long day of preaching and healing. When He tried to rest, Jesus was awakened by His disciples and calmed the sea for them. As soon as the boat came upon shore, Jesus is greeted by yet another person in need.

Where: The country of the Gadarenes which is on the eastern shore of the Sea of Galilee

Why: This shows us that God has the ultimate authority on the earth He created. Even the demons He sent out of the man had to ask Him for permission to go into the swine. God is in control. This story also demonstrates that satan only has the power we give him over our lives.

How: (This answer should be personal to each individual.)

Prayer: *"NOW THE ONE WHO PROVIDES SEED FOR THE SOWER AND BREAD FOR FOOD WILL PROVIDE AND MULTIPLY YOUR SEED AND INCREASE THE HARVEST OF YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS." 2 Corinthians 9:10*

*THE DOUBLE UP PRAYER:  
DOUBLE THE REACH IN RIVER VALLEY*

*DOUBLE THE REACH IN NICARAGUA  
DOUBLE THE GROWTH IN OUR LIVES  
DOUBLE THE GROWTH IN OUR GIVING*

Re.Mark.Able Study  
Week 13, Day 2

Prayer: Heavenly Father, please help me to push everything else aside as I prepare to study Your word and to hear what You have to say.

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**5:1** Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes. **2** And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, **3** who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no one could bind him, not even with chains, **4** because he had often been bound with shackles and chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him. **5** And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones.

Jesus and the disciples had just come from another day of teaching, healing, and another hard learned lesson for the disciples. I would imagine that they were not particularly happy to see this man after having a very full day and eventful night prior to stepping ashore. I can also only imagine what they were thinking once he got close enough for them to get a good look at him. Mark does not tell us how the disciples reacted to the man. What do you think was their reaction? How would you have reacted?

How often do we pass up opportunities to witness to the lost or make a difference in this world because we feel we have a pass due to some events going on in our lives?

Aren't you glad we serve a God who never tires and is there for us no matter what time of day or what else is going on in the world?

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Re.Mark.Able Study  
Week 13, Day 3

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for showing me through this story that I can run to You no matter what is going on in my life. Thank you for your grace and mercy in my life. Please be with me today and help me to see this story with new eyes and see what you want me to learn from it.

**6** *When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped Him. 7 And he cried out with a loud voice and said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God that You do not torment me."*

**8** *For He said to him, "Come out of the man, unclean spirit!" 9 Then He asked him, "What is your name?"*

*And he answered, saying, "My name is Legion; for we are many." 10 Also he begged Him earnestly that He would not send them out of the country.*

What a picture to behold. Here we see a man who is possessed with at least 2,000 demons recognize Jesus Christ and run to Him. This is amazing not only because he was demon possessed but because the man is not a Jew. He is a Gentile, someone who would not be expected to recognize the King of the Jews, yet he runs to Jesus.

The man's words however, seem a little confusing. The man ran to Jesus but his words indicate that he is afraid of Jesus. It is not actually the man speaking to Jesus, it is one of the many demons. The one demon is voicing the fear they are all facing; they know the Power they have encountered and they know they can no longer possess the man. Their only hope is to beg Jesus to not send them out of the country.

How often do we say one thing and do another? Do we talk a good talk when it comes to our faith and then walk in a different direction? What area of your life do you need to turn over to God and walk away from?

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Re.Mark.Able Study  
Week 13, Day 4

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for another day to study Your word. Please help me to fully understand this story and how I need to apply it in my life.

**11** Now a large herd of swine was feeding there near the mountains. **12** So all the demons begged Him, saying, "Send us to the swine, that we may enter them." **13** And at once Jesus gave them permission. Then the unclean spirits went out and entered the swine (there were about two thousand); and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and drowned in the sea.

**14** So those who fed the swine fled, and they told it in the city and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that had happened. **15** Then they came to Jesus, and saw the one who had been demon-possessed and had the legion, sitting and clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. **16** And those who saw it told them how it happened to him who had been demon-possessed, and about the swine. **17** Then they began to plead with Him to depart from their region.

This part of the story is a little hard to process. Why would the demons beg to enter the swine only to run and jump off of a cliff? We are not given a reason for the demons' action so we are only left to speculate. I wonder if the demons knew that their only freedom would come from their death. If they had not gone to the swine, they possibly would have been waiting for another host to inhabit. I wonder if they came to realize that Jesus is the one true God and that satan cannot stand against Him so they simply did not want to do satan's bidding any longer. The good news is that, as believers, one day we will get to hear the rest of this story and have full understanding! Until then, we will be left to wonder.

I do know some things for sure! I know that satan wants to seek and destroy. Jesus Christ came to give people eternal life. Satan wants to control and manipulate. Christ wants to set us free.

Have you been set free by Jesus Christ? Have you turned over all of the demons in your life? Who do you know who has demons they need to deal with? Pray for them when you do the closing prayer for them today.

In the destruction of the swine, the inhabitants became scared. According to some accounts, the current day value of that many pigs would be about a quarter of a million dollars. That is certainly something that a non believer would be extremely upset about. However, what was more important, the man's freedom from demons or money?

This is yet another story where Jesus provides a great truth and example of His greatness and it gets lost due to people not seeing the big picture. Do you ever get so caught up in the details that you fail to see the big picture? What are some big lessons from your life have you missed due focusing on the immediate instead of the future?

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Re.Mark.Able Study

Week 13, Day 5

Prayer: Jesus, please help me to see that I am on this earth to fulfill Your plan for me. Help me to always go where ever You would have me to go. Give me direction and purpose in all that I do for You.

**18** And when He got into the boat, he who had been demon-possessed begged Him that he might be with Him. **19** However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you." **20** And he departed and began to proclaim in Decapolis all that Jesus had done for him; and all marveled.

Upon first reading this I was disappointed for the man. I can only imagine how grateful he was to Jesus for healing him and how much he wanted to be with Him and to help further

His kingdom. But, upon further study I realized that Jesus had much bigger plans for this man. Jesus appointed him as an evangelist in an area that desperately needed to hear the word of God. Jesus could not stay there because the people were focused on the loss of their swine. Once Jesus left with the disciples, the man who was called Legion was free to go about spreading the Word. What better person to go about the people who saw him at is very worst was this man? What a witness! This is what I call a neon sign witness! There is no missing the change Jesus Christ made in this man. What better way of showing them that if Legion could be changed, so could they! I would imagine that once the initial loss of all of the swine was accepted, the bigger picture came into clear focus. Jesus knew the story would not end with He and the disciples rowing away but would continue with the man He had entrusted to see that it would be told.

What story has God entrusted you to tell? What has He done in your life that needs to be acknowledged and shared? Pray for Him to give you the opportunity to share your story when the time is right.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for the healing that You have given me. Please help me to be a witness to others of Your grace and mercy and healing ability. Help me to always remember that satan only has the power over me that I give him.

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