**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr May 23, 2021**

**A Meeting With A Tormented Soul**

Mark 5:1-20

**Key Truth:** The gospel tells us that we no longer have to fear sin, the world, and Satan; they are defeated foes.

**The Story: Spiritual Powers Collide**

1. A demon possessed man in a desolate place:

 A. He is a picture of what Satan wants to do to God’s creation.

2. The encounter with the legion of demons:

 A. Satan is powerful, but Jesus Christ is all powerful.

3. The encounter with the townspeople:

 A. The townspeople were more concerned about financial

 loss than about a soul being saved.

4. The encounter with the restored man:

 A. He is experiencing the peace that comes from Jesus.

 B. The true longing of a disciple is to be with Jesus.

**What We Can Learn:**

1. We cannot defeat the power of Satan with earthly weapons.

 **Ephesians 6:10-16, 2 Corinthians 10:4**

2. Don’t allow the shame of your past to silence the power of

 Jesus Christ manifested in your life.

3. Jesus not only frees us from that which oppresses us but we

 are now called to join in His mission.

4. Sharing your faith begins at home.

5. The fact that you are still here means Jesus Christ has a

 mission for you to accomplish.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Thank God for delivering you from the power of Satan. Use every opportunity to share the goodness of Jesus Christ with others.

**CONNECTION GROUP HOMEWORK**

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

What was day-to-day life like for the demon possessed man? Why do you think Mark gives us so much detail about the life and situation of this man?

How did this demon-possessed man respond to seeing Jesus from afar? What is significant about this man’s posture before Jesus (v. 6)?

What did the demon-possessed man beg Jesus not to do? What does that tell us about Jesus’ nature and mission?

Read Matthew 12:25-28: What does the casting out of the demons from the man display about the power of Jesus?

Read Matthew 12:43-45: It is not enough for the house to be swept and put in order. Why is it important for the house to be filled with the presence of Jesus?

Read Ephesians 4:1-6: God is giving us the opportunity to have an impact on those around us. If we’re honest, we’re our “real” selves at home and sometimes that can be messy. What picture did Paul give us to help others see what authentic faith in Jesus looks like?

2 Corinthians 5:17-21: What is an ambassador? What do they typically do? What keeps us from seeing ourselves as ambassadors in our workplaces and homes? What are some practical measures we might take to more readily acknowledge our identity as Christ’s ambassadors?

Read 1 Peter 3:15. What are some practical ways we might prepare to talk to others about Jesus?