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| | Study Schedule June - July 2020 | | |
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| MANUAL MA | Date | Topic | Scriptures |
| | 6/3/2020 | Depend On God | Genesis 39:1- 6, 16 – 23 |
| | 6/10/2020 | Making A Bold Move | Numbers 27:1 – 11 |
| | 6/17/2020 | God's Justice and The Burning Bush | Exodus 3:1 – 10 |
| | 6/24/2020 | Seeking Salvation and Choosing Compassion | Luke 10:25 – 37 |
| | 7/1/2020 | Break | No Study |
| | 7/8/2020 | Worship Anchors My Soul | John 4:7 – 24 |
| | 7/15/2020 | Share the Good News | Mark 5:1 – 19 |
| | 7/22/2020 | Protection: Who's Got Your Back? | I Samuel 19:1 – 7 |
| | 7/29/2020 | Faithful: Advancing The Good News | Acts 18:1 – 4, 18 – 26 |

This Week's Lesson – July 15, 2020

Truth, Justice and Power – The Jesus Way Lesson 6: Share The Good News Mark 5:1 – 19



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Group Discussion

How can the Church bring the power of God to bear against the injustices plaguing our communities?

- Through Prayer/Fasting: Confronting Demonic oppression is Spiritual warfare and requires the church to employ spiritual weapons.
- <u>Through Love and Compassion:</u> Treating people in need with Lovingkindness remembering how God delivered us.



Through Practical Action: Directing struggling people (mental illness, addiction, etc.) to Community resources coupled with Prayer and the Word of God.

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Introduction to Mark's Gospel

Author: John Mark, associate of the Apostle Peter – later joining Paul and Barnabas on missionary journeys.

Date of Writing: Mark's Gospel one of the 1st NT books - A.D. 55-59.

Purpose of Writing: Mark's Gospel was likely written to Gentiles to strengthen their faith in Christ in the midst of persecution.

Practical Application:

- Mark's Gospel is one of "Action". As followers of Christ, we are to be engaged in acts of service.
- Jesus exhorted us that to be great in God's kingdom, we must be the servant of all (Mark 10:44).
- Self-sacrifice should transcend our need for recognition or reward, just as Jesus did.



Dverview of Mark 4:35 – 5:9 Jesus And His Disciples To Head Into A Storm While Crossing The Galilee Jesus Calms The Winds And The Waves Possessed Man.

Read Mark 5:1 – 19

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- 1. Why was the possessed man living alone? Do we force or create situations where people live alone today?
- <u>He Experienced Internal Torment</u>: The man experienced torment from the legion of unclean demonic spirits.
- <u>He Expressed External Torment:</u> The evil spirits made the man do harm to himself (cutting, not taking care Himself) and to others (abnormal behavior, strength...)
- We Have Trouble Dealing With The Tormented: Many times we feel that it is easier to avoid tormented people, rather than seek the Lord to intercede on their behalf.



- 2. What did the evil spirits do to the man?
- <u>Abnormal Mindset:</u> The demons affect the man's mind. He was not thinking like a "normal" person does.
- <u>Abnormal Behavior:</u> The demons caused him to behave in evil and abnormal ways (living in a graveyard, not sleeping, cutting himself, naked, crying...)
- <u>Abnormal Attributes:</u> The man had supernatural, demonic strength, where he could not be naturally controlled.



<u>Note:</u> The devil and his forces has power to influence people to do evil things they could not normally do. But God has power that is even greater.

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- 3. Why couldn't a strong group of people hold the man and keep him locked up in the community?
- <u>The People Were Helpless:</u> They were overwhelmed because of the power and number of demons that were plaguing the man.
- The People Were Hopeless: Even when they were able to capture and chain the demonic man, he would break out even from chains made of iron...



• <u>The People Were Powerless/Faithless:</u> The people attempted to fix this man by human/natural means – but never looked to God and to His Power.

- 4. How did the demons respond to Jesus presence?
- <u>They Witnessed the Presence of Jesus:</u> The Demons recognized who Jesus was/is even from a far off and ran to Him in submission.
- They Worshipped The Person Of Jesus: The demons worshipped Him, proclaiming Him as the Son of God, The Most – High God.
- They Worried/Feared the Power Of Jesus: The demons cowered in fear knowing that Jesus has the power to deal forcibly and severely with them.

<u>Note:</u> The demons know Jesus, recognizing His Power and respond in worship. How much more should we...



- 5. What did Jesus do that others could not or did not know how to do?
 - <u>Confront the Demons:</u> By His Power and Authority Jesus could stand before them and stop them from what they were doing.
 - Control the Demons: Jesus was/is able to make the demons submit to Him and to His Word
 - <u>Cast Out the Demons:</u> Jesus by the power of His Word is able to cast the demons out of the man and to go into the pigs.



- 6. How does Jesus speak in to our lives today in ways that no one else can?
 - Jesus Speaks Through The Scriptures: His Word, The Bible is living and powerful. We can find His will, ways and wisdom in His Word.
 - Jesus Speaks By His Spirit: The Holy Spirit speaks to us to comfort, guide and empower us in our trials.



• <u>Jesus Speaks To Our Situation:</u> In the midst of trouble and uncertainty, Jesus has the truth that helps us no matter what we are going through.

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- 7. How did the demoniac man respond to his healing and new freedom?
 - He Changed: He went from being naked and crazy to being clothed and in His right mind.
 - <u>He Committed:</u> He was sitting with Jesus (seeing Jesus/seeing him) He was committed to the Lord wanting to go with Him.



 He Communicated/Testified: The man after being told by Jesus to go home and testify he told his story to everyone (vs. 20).

- 7. Why is it important for us to share our story of deliverance?
 - To Give Encouragement: To let people know that they are not alone in their struggles.
- <u>To Give Hope:</u> To let people know that if God did it for you, He can do it for them too.
- To Give God the Glory: Our stories of triumph and victory moves us to praise God for the great things He has done.

"And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony..." (Rev. 12:11)



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- 8. Even the demons knew Jesus and His power. How can Christians be bold in our faith in showing what Jesus can do for others?
 - Pray For Boldness: Ask God to fill us with the power of the Spirit to make us Bold in sharing our faith with others.
 - Pray For Understanding: Ask God to help us to become more familiar with all He has done in His Word.



 Pray For Compassion: Ask the Lord to help to see hurting afflicted people as Jesus sees them. Valuable and in need of a Saviour.

Keys For Living

- Our battles we face are not natural or with other people per se, but spiritual against Satan and his demonic forces (cf. Eph. 6:12).
- The devil, while more powerful that we are in our own strength, is no match for the Lord Jesus and His Word.
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 Part of the purpose of Jesus delivering us from our trials and sins is to provide us with a testimony that God can use to help others.

