



Sermon Discussion Questions

Sunday, January 22, 2012

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Series: Opportunity Knocks

Sermon: Go

Note to Group Leaders:

One of the changes you will see in sermon discussion questions is I've been asked to add my own thoughts on some of the questions being asked. So, I've done that to keep assisting you as you lead others. Some questions I'll just let you know why I'm asking that question. Again, use the ones that work for your group. Enjoy!

Introduce it:

What is the scariest movie you remember seeing and what was its affect on you?

**Goal of this question is for the group to get to know each other a little more personally. But main goal is to get them to start thinking about how scary it would have been to meet the demonic man.*

Revisit it: learn the passage preached on.

Read Luke 8:26-39

What all do we learn about this man's life? Name everything you see in these verses that tell us something about his life.

If you were in this town, what would be your response to this man? Your interaction with him?

**Most likely no interaction, too afraid of him. Would have given up on him and thought this was just the way he was always going to be--no hope for him. He had no home, no friends, no future.*

Read Revelation 20:1-3

Why would the demons ask Jesus to throw them into the pigs? What else could have Jesus have done with them?

**They didn't want to just be done away with forever-thrown into an Abyss-the end all. They knew the power of Jesus and feared him greatly. They asked for mercy. Wow. Even demons ask Jesus for mercy. That shows that he is Lord of all.*

As soon as the pigs were killed, the owners of the pigs ran into the city. What did they lose that day and why would they and the townspeople want Jesus to leave?

**perhaps they ran just to go tell everyone that the man was healed. Perhaps they were running to get authorities because they just lost their main money maker-the pigs. Maybe the town people asked him to leave because they didn't want to lose any more of their money- makers.*

Jesus didn't just cast out the demons from this man. What else did Jesus do for him? What does the passage show us?

**He clothed him; talked with him; taught him; had fellowship with him. This is a man that has been by himself for years and now has interaction with Jesus. Relationship.*

Who are people in your life that are "scary" to be around? People maybe that you have given up hope forever changing? If God turned their life around, what would it take for you to start spending time with them?

**Leader-this could be a homeless person; a person in the neighborhood that lives a pretty bad lifestyle, a relative, a co-worker*

Jesus called some to "come and follow him". But this man he told to "Go and tell others about all that God had done for him." Why do you think he didn't let him follow him?

**His original 12 he calls them to come follow him as he teaches them his way. But ultimately he calls them to*

GO (Matt 28-great commission). God's ultimate goal is that people would worship him and this man was called to tell everyone what God had done in his life.

Use it: don't just learn the passage but use it.

Imagine the number of people that might worship God because of this man. Had Jesus done what everyone else had done to him-alienated him-he would not have a story about God's love. Who are people you can think of that need you to bring Jesus to them?

*Leader this is a time to get folks thinking about being around those not like them. Don't rush this time. Really challenge folks to think about people and steps they can take to get into their lives.

We were challenged this morning to be around people not like us, people that don't have it all together, and people that are hungry for God and food. What does the thought of going on a mission trip stir in you?

As a practical application, try to attend one of the missio Dei short term mission trip meetings in the next week. Just attend and begin hearing even if you don't go this summer. If you don't go this summer, find someone that is going and commit to praying for them and financially supporting them. This can be your way of going with them.

Remember it: memorize a verse that helps you to remember and use it.

Memorize Luke 8:39. Try to make this an application for yourself this week. Tell someone about what Jesus has done for you.

39"Return home and tell how much God has done for you." So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him.

Write this on a piece of paper and put it on your mirror and in your car. Share this verse with your children to help them begin thinking about telling others about what God has done for them! Begin now helping them see the importance of telling other as their part in building God's church.