

Small Group Study Guide

ICE BREAK

- Have you ever had a “brush with death” that you’d share with the group?
- How did it affect you, your relationship with God, others?

STUDY

This week we focus on Jesus’s authority as we face obstacles that challenge our trust and even our sense of wonder during and after life’s storms

What did you hear in this week’s sermon that was most valuable right now in your life?

1. Mark 4:35-41

- a. Why could Jesus be asleep in a storm: exhaustion, supernatural calm, other ideas?
- b. In the middle of your storms when have you wondered if He cares or not?
- c. Jesus has authority over everything he created. Why are we surprised when he demonstrates his powers over anything? How are fear and trust spiritual enemies of each other?
- d. Like the disciples, when has your fear of a life challenge turned into fear of God after he has “brought you through it”? How can Jesus care for you & allow squalls?

2. Mark 5:1-20 Jesus, Demons, Pigs, Redemption, Great News!

a. What are some ways people become spiritually oppressed? b. Explain how you think that process occurs? c. How does Jesus bring people out of darkness and oppression: is it more likely to be instantaneously or by some process?

3. Results of the anonymous man’s healing:

- a. The man becomes “normal: free of bondage”. Talk about what that mean to most people. What does that mean to you?

- b. The crowd fears his normality/transformation. How do you explain that? What leads us to fear change in people, even for the better? What changes do you fear right now?
- c. The crowd begs Jesus to leave: Explain why they would do that?
- d. The man becomes *The First Missionary*. Full of Wonder- Jesus compels Him to share his wonder-full story. How do we, adult Christians, maintain our spiritual wonder and share it in a way that it **SPARKS WONDER** in others?

REFLECT

- Reflect and Discuss how Jesus has worked Wonders in your life and how it sparked wonders with one other person

PRAY

- Pray for each other's needs to trust Jesus in the face of specific fears in your life.
- Follow up on past prayer requests.
- Pray for the mission God has given each of us to share His Wonderful Message..