

It's a Miracle!

Pt. 2 – The Demoniac

The progression of a life controlling issue:

It starts with a thought.

That thought becomes a decision.

The decision leads to an action.

That action becomes a repeated action.

An often-repeated action is called a habit.

That repeated habit leads to addiction.

Lessons from The Demoniac:

Healthy habits lead to life; unhealthy habits lead to death.

Mk. 5:1 They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes. ²When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an evil spirit came from the tombs to meet him. ³This man lived in the tombs...

Mk. 5:3 ...no one could bind him any more, not even with a chain. ⁴For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him.

Run to Jesus.

Mk. 5:5 Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones. ⁶When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him.

Spiritual battles are won with spiritual methods.

Mk. 5:7 He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!" ⁸For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you evil spirit!"

Jesus will restore my identity.

Mk. 5:9 Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many."

Eliminate my options.

Mk. 5:10 And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area.

Jesus brings total, complete freedom.

Mk. 5:11 A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. ¹²The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them." ¹³He gave them permission, and the evil spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

Freedom draws a crowd.

Mk. 5:14 Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened.

The supernatural divides.

Mk. 5:15 When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid.

Don't miss my chance.

Mk. 5:16 Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demon-possessed man—and told about the pigs as well. ¹⁷Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region.

Share my story.

Mk. 5:18 As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. ¹⁹Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." ²⁰So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.