JESUS HAS POWER OVER EVIL

Mark 5:1-20

Dear Parents,

Jesus had enemies. In the midst of His public ministry, the Jewish religious leaders began plotting to kill Him. (See Mark 3:6.) So one day, Jesus went to a land on the east side of the Sea of Galilee where Gentiles lived. Jesus' mission to the Gentiles was not a backup plan after the Jews rejected Him; when Jesus was an infant, Simeon prophesied that His work would be for all people—both Jews and Gentiles. (See Luke 2:3032.)

In that land was a man who needed help. An evil spirit was inside the man, and he suffered greatly. The people had tried to control the man by tying him up with chains, but the man broke free. So he lived alone in the tombs, crying out day and night.

When Jesus stepped ashore, the man ran to Him and kneeled down. Jesus commanded the evil spirit to come out of the man. Many evil spirits were in the man, and Jesus gave the evil spirits permission to go into a herd of pigs. They did, and the man was healed.

The healed man wanted to follow Jesus, but Jesus told the man to go home to his own people and tell what the Lord had done for him. The man obeyed Jesus. He testified to the cities in that area about the Lord's mercy, and the Gentiles were amazed.

Jesus is Lord over all things, good and evil. In His teaching, Jesus said, "If I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you" (Matt. 12:28). Jesus—as well as the Bible —is clear that Satan exists, and he and the demons work against God and His purposes.

Only Jesus had the strength to control the man with the evil spirits. Jesus has power over evil, and He used His power to free the man. He has power over everything. Jesus came to earth to destroy the Devil by dying on the cross. One day, Jesus will end evil forever.

Check this session's Activity Page and Big Picture Card as well as the Gospel Project for Kids Family App for ways to interact with the Bible content this week.

FAMILY STARTING POINTS

- Babies and Toddlers
  - Jesus healed people.
  - Jesus healed the man with the bad spirit.
  - Jesus told the man to tell everyone what God did for him.
  - Jesus has power because He is God's Son.
- Preschool
  - What did Jesus heal people from? Jesus healed people from sickness, sin, and death.
  - Jesus healed a man with many evil spirits.
- Kids
  - What did Jesus heal people from? Jesus healed people from sickness, sin, and death.
  - Jesus healed a man with many evil spirits.

UNIT KEY PASSAGE

- Psalm 103:23 (Babies and Toddlers: Psalm 103:3)

NEXT WEEK

- "Jesus Healed a Woman and Raised a Girl" (Mark 5:21-43)

Our Vision for Children

At Harlan Baptist Church we take seriously the Lord's command to "bring [our children] up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4).

We envision a church culture or atmosphere that reflects that of Moses' instruction to God's people as they prepared to enter into the Promised Land as found in Deuteronomy 6:4-9.

In fact, Psalm 78 sets forth the very desire of our heart, that our children would hope in the Lord and not forget the God who gives them life.

Therefore, it is our desire to partner with parents in seeing our children come to faith in Christ and prepare them for life-long obedience to His Word.

At Harlan Baptist, we use a number of different methods and teaching styles to achieve these desired goals.

Jon Dickenson
Associate Pastor of Children & Administration

jsdickenson@gmail.com
jondickenson.wordpress.com
606-573-4904