

GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

In your own words, summarize the main idea from last week's passage (4:1-34)

Read Mark 4:35-5:20. Share 2-3 observations of what you see in the passage and then answer some or all of the following questions:

Jesus decides to leave the crowd, to cross to the Gentile side of the lake, and falls fast asleep in the boat. What does this teach us about Jesus?

Some of the disciples were experienced fishermen on this very lake and yet they were afraid they might die in the storm because it was so bad.

- Do you think their fear was justified or reasonable? Why/why not?
- How would you have felt in this situation?
- How do you think they felt toward Jesus in this moment?
- What did they expect Jesus to do for them (help bail, teach, etc.)?

How are fear and faith contrasted and connected to one another in this passage?

- What were the disciples afraid of during the storm?
- What were the disciples afraid of after the storm?
- Does faith = the absence of fear? Why/why not?

What did the disciples get right? What did they get wrong?

Jesus enters Gentile territory and is confronted by a demon-possessed man.

- What is the significance of the multiple "unclean" objects in the story?
- What is the man like while under demonic possession? What does this reveal about the nature of Satan and his kingdom?
- What is the man like after the exorcism? What does this reveal about Jesus and the nature of his kingdom?
- Why does Jesus allow the demons to enter the pigs? Why does he allow the demons to kill the pigs and destroy the farmer's wealth?

How do you see the parables of 4:1-34 played out in this passage?

The demon-possessed man is commissioned by Jesus to go and share his story.

- Take 5-10 min to briefly sketch out the story of what God has done in your life. Don't worry if it is "dramatic" or "mundane," just be honest.
- Briefly share your testimonies in your group.
- Identify at least one person you can share your story with this week and commit to actually sharing it with them. For help on learning how to share your story check out the Covenant's BLESS resources:

<https://covchurch.org/make-and-deepen-disciples/intentional-evangelism/>

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