



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

THIS WEEK: **Encounter** – Mark 5:1 - 20

GETTING STARTED

- Share about a time you encountered someone or something odd and uncomfortable, so you made a point to ignore them and walk past.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PASSAGE (Mark 5:1-20)

- What's significant about 'the other side of the sea' that Jesus and his disciples have now arrived at? (vs. 1-2)
- In your own words, describe what this demon-possessed man's life was like? (vs. 2-5)
- How does the man possessed by demons respond to Jesus, and why is this important? (vs. 6-8)
- What's significant about the name 'Legion'? (vs. 9)
- What do you make of this incident of the pigs dying? Within the context of the events that day, why do you think Jesus allowed for this to happen? (vs. 10-13)
- Does the response from the townspeople surprise you at all? Why? (vs. 14-16)

QUESTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

- Have you ever had an encounter with the demonic or something that clearly felt and looked evil? Explain
- The power of the gospel to interrupt us and restore can be startling and sometimes scary. How have you found this true in your life?
- One of the most amazing parts of this story is that God takes this demon-possessed man's mess and makes it a message. He becomes an ambassador to tell people of the goodness of God! How have you experienced this in your life?

APPLICATION

- Like the townspeople in Mark 5, what are some areas of comfort that you have been holding onto that God might be asking you to release control of?
- Like the man in Mark 5, how does the fact that you have received mercy create a mission for you to tell others of that mercy? Are there specific people you are praying for and looking for opportunities to share Christ with?
- Take time to pray for one another.