



Bible Reading Group

The gospel of Mark

Chapter 5

Healing of a demon-possessed man (5:1-20)

- 1 Identify the region of the Gerasenes on a map.
- 2 What time of day was it? (See end of Mark 4.)
- 3 List the symptoms the man showed.
- 4 List the terms used to describe this man's problem.
- 5 What did the man believe his problem to be?
- 6 What did his neighbours believe his problem to be?
- 7 What do you think Jesus believed the man's problem to be?
- 8 If this man were admitted to a psychiatric hospital today, would the diagnosis be the same?
- 9 Would the gospel writer, speaking under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and Jesus himself, knowingly refer to demons and evil spirits if they were not the cause of mental illnesses like this one?
- 10 Compare the story in Matthew 8:28-34. What differences are there? Can you explain them?
- 11 What does "Legion" mean?
- 12 How did the pigs' death help the man be healed?
- 13 Should the pigs have been there?
- 14 Why did the people want Jesus to leave?
- 15 What did Jesus ask the man to do?
- 16 Did he do it?
- 17 Where is the Decapolis?

A dead girl and a sick woman (5:21–43)

- 18 Where was Jesus when these events occurred?
- 19 What was a “synagogue”?
- 20 What did a synagogue ruler do?
- 21 What made him think Jesus could heal his daughter? [Hint: see Mark 3]
- 22 Was Jairus a Pharisee?
- 23 What was wrong with the woman?
- 24 What were the consequences of this illness? [See Leviticus 15:19–27]
- 25 What made the woman think that touching the clothes of Jesus would heal her?
- 26 Why did Jesus choose Peter, James and John to accompany him into the house?
Were these three chosen for any other special times?
- 27 Why did people laugh when they were mourning?
- 28 What language did Jesus use when he spoke to the girl?
- 29 Is there any significance in the woman having her illness for 12 years and Jairus’
daughter being 12 years old?
- 30 Why didn’t Jesus want anyone to know about the resurrection?
- 31 Did he really believe it would be kept secret?