

*TO HELP US STUDY*

1. When Jesus got out of the boat, whom did he meet? _____

2. Where did the man live? _____
3. What did he do when people tried to tie him with chains? _____
4. Describe how he acted night and day: _____

5. When the man met Jesus, what did he do? _____

6. What did the evil spirit say his name was? _____
7. When Jesus commanded the demons to leave the man, where did they want to go? _____

8. What happened then? _____

9. When the people of Gerasa found the man with his clothes on and acting normally, what did they ask Jesus to do? _____ Why? _____

10. When the man wanted to go with Jesus, what did Christ tell him to do? _____

TO HELP US REMEMBER: *Young ones*—Mark 5:19, "Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you."

Older ones—Mark 5:18-19

TO CHALLENGE TEEN THOUGHT

This story graphically displays Christ's power over Satan and it is the clearest Bible picture of demon possession. Based on this story, on the back of this page make a list of everything we can know about the demons of New Testament times.

TIPS FOR TEACHING PARENTS

If we happen to read the other Gospel accounts of this story, or if we compare the different versions, we will find some confusion about the name of the country where the story takes place. Mark calls it the country of the Gerasenes. Matthew speaks of the Gadarenes. Both are correct. Gerasa was the city nearby. And Gadara was the area or country name. So Christ was in both places at once, just as we can be in Dallas and in Texas at the same time. (The word *Gergasenes* in another account of the story is another spelling for Gerasenes.)

This story should be especially easy to tell to our smaller children, for it abounds with colorful physical details to hold their attention. The presence of animals and activity will almost always arouse a small child's interest. All of this helps us teach impressively about 1) Jesus' power over the devil, and 2) our proper response to Christ's blessings.

FOR ADULT STUDY: Mk 1:24-27, 34; 16:19; Lk 4:41; 11:25-26 Eph 6:11-12; Acts 16:18; 1 Pt 3:22; 1 Jn 4:1-4.