

The first three gospels all tell the story of an intense 12 hours in Jesus' life full of major interruptions. In each story Jesus shows his power over something we fear...

1. Power over_

(Matt. 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25)

"...A furious squall came up... Jesus was sleeping... The disciples woke him and said, 'Teacher, don't you care if we drown?' He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, 'Quiet! Be still!' Then... it was completely calm. Jesus said, 'Why are you so afraid? Do you have no faith?'" Mark 4:37-40

Like the disciples, I forget Jesus' _____ in the _____ of the storm

2. Power over_

(Matt. 8:28-34; Mark 5:1-20; Luke 8:26-39)

"When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an evil spirit came from the tombs ...he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart... he would cry and cut himself with stones. Jesus said... 'Come out of this man, you evil spirit!' ...The demons begged, 'Send us among the pigs...' ...and the herd, about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and drowned." Mark 5:2-5; 12

"Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this... When the villagers came, they saw the man.. sitting there, dressed, in his right mind; and they were afraid. Then they began to plead with Jesus to leave... So he got into the boat and left." Mk 5:15

Like the villagers, I think: "Solve my _____ but save my _____"

3. Power over_

(Matt. 9:20-23; Mark 5:26-34; Luke 8:43-48)

"...She thought, 'If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.' Immediately her bleeding stopped... At once Jesus realized power had gone out from him. He turned around and asked, 'Who touched my clothes?' 'You see the people crowding against you,' his disciples said, 'and yet you ask, Who touched me?' But Jesus kept looking... Then the woman... fell at his fee, trembling... He said, 'Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.'" Mark 5:28-30 Like the woman, my ______ is the catalyst for Jesus' _____

4. Power over_

(Matt. 9:23-26; Mark 5:35-43; Luke 8:49-56)

"While Jesus was still speaking, some men came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue ruler. 'Your daughter is dead,' they said... Ignoring what they said, Jesus told him, 'Don't be afraid; just believe.' Mark 5:35, 36

"He took her by the hand and said to her, 'Talitha koum!' (which means, 'Little girl, I say to you, get up!'). Immediately the girl stood up and walked around..." Mark 5:41

Like the man, I'm told by Jesus:

Key verses:

"Jesus said to his disciples, 'Why are you so afraid? Do you have no faith?"" Mark 5:40

"The woman was trembling with fear. Jesus said, 'Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace..." Mark 5:33, 34

"Jesus told him, 'Don't be afraid; just believe." Mark 5:36

"The people asked Jesus to leave, because they were overcome with fear. So he got into the boat and left." Luke 8:37

What are **you** afraid of?

Daily Meditations

Here's a chance to spend some time each day this week meditating on today's topic!

This week's memory verse: *"Ignoring what they said, Jesus told him, 'Don't be afraid; just believe.'" Mark* 5:36

Monday

Think back on this weekend's message. Look at all the interruptions Jesus experienced! Recall a time an attempted getaway turned into something unpleasant:

How do you normally respond to interruptions or obstacles?

What do you learn from this approximately 12 hour span in the life of Jesus?

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How can you apply this lesson today and this week?

Ask God to help you see interruptions as His divine appointments! Pray that you will see His power at work even in the unplanned moments today!

Tuesday

Read Mark 4:35-41. After this, what would frighten you more-- the storm or Jesus?

What was Jesus showing them about himself?

Does Jesus ever seem to be asleep in your life when storms come?

What does this story teach you about times like that?

Ask God to help you through the storm of life you are in right now.

Wednesday

Read Mark 5:1-20. This story is so rich with application! Have you ever felt like the "man of the tombs", as the New American Standard Bible calls him-living in the past, tormented by evil forces, punishing yourself, bound with useless chains in vain attempts to solve your problem?

How does your story have parallels to this man's story of freedom in Christ?

Can you relate to the villagers' response? How?

They were afraid of Jesus' power, though the change was for the best. They also were upset that solving the problem of the madman meant the loss of their pigs. Do you ever have the mentality, "Solve my problem, but save my pigs"? In what areas?

What "pigs" in your life need to go along with the problems you want solved?

How are Jesus' words to the healed man also applicable to you (verses 18-20)?

Thank God for His mercies toward you when you were bound in chains and under the influence of evil. Ask Him to help you share your story with others.

Thursday

Read Mark 5:21-34. Of all the people pressing against Jesus, one receives his power. Why?

What is the relationship, in this Scripture at least, between faith and receiving Jesus' power?

How is this a universal truth?

Why do you think Jesus makes the woman reveal herself?

Thank God that Jesus has healed you of the guilt of sin! Ask Him in faith for help and healing in areas of your life where you need his power! Ask in faith!

Friday

Read Mark 5:35-43. The responses of the people are interesting. How have you been like the men in verse 35?

Like the mourners in verses 38-40?

Like Jairus?

Like the girl?

Why do you think Jesus told the parents not to say anything, while he told the healed man in verse 19 to tell everyone?

What do the stories in Mark 4:35 - 5:43 have in common (See "key verses" on previous page)?

Bring to Jesus your fears and ask Him for faith in His power and care for you.

Saturday

Today please finish any meditations you might have missed, and please pray for the services this weekend. Thanks!! Keep asking Jesus to help you keep your faith uncomplicated, uncorrupted, and simple!