

Mark 5:1-20 – Jesus’ Method in Real Life

Follow-Up Questions – February 21

Agree or disagree with the following quote from Yale historian Jaroslav Pelikan: “Regardless of what anyone may personally think or believe about him, Jesus of Nazareth has been the dominant figure in the history of Western Culture for almost twenty centuries. If it were possible, with some sort of super magnet, to put up out of the history every scrap of metal bearing at least a trace of his name, how much would be left?” Why? Would someone’s view of that quote change if they had a better understanding of Jesus? Why or why not? Why is it important to understand Jesus’ strategy of Connect Equip Send?

When you think of evil, what do you think of? Is evil something you are concerned about? Why? Do you track with Lloyd’s suggestion that evil is not something we can contain in just part of our lives? What do verses like 1 Corinthians 5:6, Ephesians 4:26-27, 1 Timothy 3:6-7, and James 3:14-15 suggest about evil and its possible place in our lives?

Is it easy or hard to know that evil is destructive in our lives? How does Hebrews 11:25 help with that tension? How can we apply that verse to help us not get caught in the destructiveness of sin and evil?

What are you doing related to God when you sin? What are you doing related to God when you confess and repent of your sin? What does that suggest about the importance of repenting in our lives?

What kinds of things do you think would have bubbled up for you if you had seen Mark 5:1-15 play out? How can you deal with the conflict or battle between evil and Jesus? How should John 16:33 and 1 John 4:4 inform our response to that conflict today?

Are you surprised by the reaction of people in Mark 5:17? Why or why not? Why would someone not want Jesus around? Have you done things to avoid Jesus in some sense? Do you think anger, attitude, or stubbornness may be indicators that you are being afraid as the people in Mark 5:15? Why or why not? How can we maintain an openness to Jesus and not be disposed to rejecting or avoiding Him?

Please read Mark 5:18-19. How do you think the guy felt when Jesus said no? How should we process that “no” when it comes to connection? Is Jesus concerned about the whole mission and the whole world? How should that touch us?