



Gerasene Man/Naming & Healing

6th Confirmation Class Handout

READ Mark 5:1-20

1 Jesus and the disciples came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. **2** And when Jesus had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man out of the tombs with an unclean spirit met him. **3** He lived among the tombs; and no one could restrain him any more, even with a chain; **4** for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke in pieces; and no one had the strength to subdue him. **5** Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones. **6** When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him; **7** Jesus said to the man, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" **8** But the man shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me." **9** Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion; for we are many." **10** The man begged Jesus earnestly not to send them (Legion) out of the country. **11** Now there on the hillside a great herd of pigs was feeding; **12** and the unclean spirits begged Jesus, "Send us into the pigs; let us enter them." **13** So Jesus gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the pigs; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and were drowned in the sea.

14 The pig herders ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came to see what it was that had happened. **15** They came to Jesus and saw the crazy man sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion; and they were afraid. **16** Those who had seen what had happened to the crazy man and to the pigs reported it. **17** Then the people of the town began to beg Jesus to leave their neighborhood. **18** As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might go with him. **19** But Jesus refused, and said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you." **20** And the man went away and began to proclaim in the ten cities how much Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed.

NOTES:

- The most concise definition of language is: The naming of things.
- When the man says, "My name is legion" he's naming his problem. Naming/seeing our problems is an important step in healing because then we can invite God into the named problem.

Weekly Challenge

Name things. Practice using language. Name all sorts of things. Like your couch and toothbrush and parent's car.