

5. How has this passage helped you grapple with the burning question?

6. Right now in your life, how is God calling you to be a light in the darkness?

7. Looking back over this week's sermon and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply?

### **Missional Application**

God calls us to report, like the former demoniac, how much the Lord has done for us and how he has shown us mercy.

### **Christ Connection**

We see Jesus' compassion for those held captive to the evil one as well as his confrontation with the dehumanizing powers of evil. With one word, Jesus delivered the demon-possessed man. This account points forward to the end of the Gospels when Jesus would give his life on the cross, appearing for a time to have lost his battle against evil only to rise triumphantly, having defeated sin, Satan, and the grave forever.

### **Jesus the Miracle-worker (Part 4)**

"If Jesus is able to deliver us from all evil, then why doesn't he just do it?"  
Mark 5:1-20

"I don't know the mind of God.  
I do know God loves him.  
If God doesn't heal him, he has a good reason."

The burning question: "If Jesus is able to deliver us from all evil, then why doesn't he just do it?"

### **Deliver Us From Evil**

Mark 5:1-20

### **Loving Darkness**

Mark 5:16-17

"You would think that the Christ delivered the town from public enemy number one, they would say, 'Please stay.' Imagine what Christ might have done about other problems in the area. But they asked him to go. It is important to grasp this. They were pleading with Jesus to leave. Pleading!" (Colin Smith)

### Light in the Darkness

1. Light of love  
John 3:16; 1:5,11

2. Light at the end of the tunnel  
Revelation 21:4

3. Light of lights  
Matthew 5:14-16

### Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Under what circumstances are you most likely to become frustrated with God's delay in dealing the last death blow to evil?
3. Read Mark 5:1-20. The demoniac had a family. What would it be like to see your family member tormented and suffering like this?
4. Why is it important to avoid deep philosophical or surface answers when someone who is grieving is asking "why" questions?

### Family Discussion Questions

1. The demoniac had a family. What would it be like to see your family member tormented and suffering like this?
2. Why did the people ask Jesus to leave?
3. Why didn't Jesus let the delivered man leave his home town and follow him?