**“The Life Changing Power of Jesus”**

## Mark 435 – 520

**Introductory Question**

What’s the biggest storm or natural disaster you’ve been a part of? What happened?

**Discussion Questions**

1. **Read Mark 4:35-41**. *Where* are Jesus and the disciples going and why? What happens along the way and how do the disciples respond?
2. What would you have been thinking and feeling if you were the disciple who found Jesus asleep in the middle of the storm (v.38)?
3. How do you react to Jesus when he seems to be asleep in your life?
4. How do you think Jesus expected his disciples to respond in this situation (v.40)?
5. What was Jesus showing them about himself through in this episode (cf. 1:27; 2:7; 3:22)?
6. **Read Mark 5:1-20.**  In your hometown, who was the “strange person”—the one people tried to avoid?
7. What do we know about the specific area where Jesus and the disciples land (vv.1-5)? After a ride like theirs (4:35-41), how would it feel to be “greeted” by this cemetery dweller?
8. What signs are there that he is not “in his right mind”? What is this man’s diagnosis and prognosis according to: (a) the people? (b) the man himself? (c) Jesus? What kind of “help” does each try to give?
9. What is the man like before (vv. 1-5) and during (vv.6-14) his encounter with Jesus compared to afterwards (vv.15-20)?
10. Why do you think the people react the way they do (vv.15-17)? Have you ever seen or experienced this kind of dramatic change?
11. Listen to the “Man of the Tombs” song by Bob Bennett (words on back). Where do you need to experience the life-changing power of Jesus?

**Man of the Tombs**

Mark 5:1-20

Man of the tombs, lives in a place where no one goes.

He tears at himself, and lives with a pain that no one knows.

He counts himself dead among the living,

He knows no mercy and no forgiving.

Deep in the night he’s driven to cry out loud.

Can you hear him cry out loud?

Man of the tombs, possessed by an unseen enemy

He breaks every chain, mistakes his freedom for being free

Shame and shamelessness equally there,

Like a random toss of a coin in the air.

Man of the tombs, he’s driven to cry out loud.

 *“Underneath this thing that I’ve become, a fading memory of flesh and blood*

 *I curse the womb, I bless the grave, I lost my heart I cannot be saved.*

 *Like those who fear me I’m afraid, like those I’ve hurt I can feel pain.*

 *Naked now before my sin, these stones that cut against my skin.*

 *Some try to touch me but no one can, Man of the tombs I am.*

Down at the shoreline, two sets of footprints meet

One voice is screaming, other voice begins to speak

In only a moment and only a word, the evil departs like a thundering herd

Man of the tombs he hears this cry out loud

 *“Underneath this thing that you’ve become, I see a man of flesh and blood,*

 *I give you life beyond the grave; I heal your heart I come to save.*

 *No need to fear be not afraid, this man of sorrows knows your pain*

#####  I come to take away your sin and bear its marks upon my skin

 *When no one can touch you still I can, for Son of God I am.”*

Dressed now and seated, clean in spirit and healthy of mind

Man of the tombs, he begs to follow but must stay behind

He’ll return to his family with stories to tell, of mercy and madness of heaven and hell

But man of the tombs, soon he will cry out loud

 *“Underneath this thing that I once was, now I’m a man of flesh and blood*

 *I have a life beyond the grave. I found my heart I can now be saved.*

 *No need to fear, I am not afraid. This man of sorrows took my pain,*

 *He comes to take away our sin and bear its marks upon his skin*

 *I’m telling you this story because, Man of the tombs I was.*

 *Man of the tombs I was.”*

Bob Bennett “Lord of the Past