

MAIN POINT

When we follow Jesus, we'll experience His power in our lives and testify to others what He has done.

INTRODUCTION

What would you say is your greatest strength? What about your greatest weakness?

In what ways do your weaknesses motivate you to rely on Jesus? Give examples.

Power naturally elicits response. In Luke 8, Jesus encountered an army of evil spirits. These spirits had power over the man they possessed, but their power was no match for the inherent power of the Son of God. Through this encounter, we see people respond to Jesus in different ways. Their responses challenge us to recognize Jesus's power, welcome His power to remove evil in our lives, and tell people what His power has done.

DISCUSSION

> READ LUKE 8:26-39.

What name did the demon-possessed man use in addressing Jesus? What is significant about the fact that the man referred to Jesus in this way when he encountered Him?

Why do you think the demon-possessed man engaged in conversation with Jesus instead of running away from Him?

What do you learn about Jesus from this miraculous event?

What reactions did Jesus receive for casting out the spirits? How would you relate these reactions to our culture today?

When the healed man begged to stay with Jesus, what kind of life do you think he was hoping to experience?

When is the last time Jesus did something in your life that made you feel like the man in this story?

How did Jesus change his understanding of what it meant to follow Him?

How was the man supposed to use his freedom? What mission did Jesus give him?

What does this story reveal about the different ways we can respond to Jesus?

How should knowing Jesus has authority over demons (and all things) impact those obstacles that keep you from declaring to others His power in your life?

What seemingly unconquerable forces in your life do you need to hand over to Jesus to heal? How might this way of living point others to the truth about Jesus?

APPLICATION

How do you think Christ wants to give you freedom in your life right now? What do you need to do to respond to Him?