

Jesus on the Issues



Day 1 — READ Mark 5:1-13

DESCRIBE the miracle that took place in this passage. Do you believe that God still works miracles? Why or why not?

READ Deuteronomy 8:2-16. **LIST** the miracles God wanted the Israelites to remember on a regular basis? What kind of track record had He built for His people? Why would it be important for people to remember all He had done for them?

Day 2 — READ Mark 5:14-19

On the tail of a miracle, people are filled with fear. What is it about human nature that causes us to react so quickly with fear?

THINK about how uncertainty in your life tends to create a level of fear? What are the things you're uncertain about right now. **RATE** your level of fear (low, medium, high) for each of those things.

Day 3 — READ Mark 5:18-20

IMAGINE being this demon possessed man. For so long he had been living a wild life, trapped and out of control. But now he's free! He sees clearly. He's at peace. Even when the townspeople react in fear, he acts in boldness. Maybe he had heard about how the God of the Israelites was faithful, but now he feels that faithfulness on a very personal level. He is a faith *full* man even in the face of uncertainty of what the future now holds.

Have you experienced that sort of personal faithfulness from God?
JOURNAL your own encounters. **THANK** God for His faithfulness.

Day 4 & 5 — READ Jeremiah 29:11-13

Hope in the face of uncertainty, care in the time of trial, compassion in the midst of hardship. That's what God promises through this passage if only we seek Him. God cares for you no matter how down and out you've been, no matter the mistakes you've made, no matter how you've rejected Him. Verse 12 says, "I will listen to you." Even though we are unfaithful, God keeps His promises. **EXPLAIN** how this truth feels to you right now. **TALK** about it with a friend.

Verse 11 states, "For I know the plans I have for you." You can't see your future, but God knows the plans. There is a path laid out for your life.

NOTICE the twists and turns in your life where you can see God working.

PRAISE God for His care and compassion.

READ Romans 8:28-29. Just as God has a plan for you, you need to be prepared for that plan to unfold. You don't just have a purpose in God's plan, you have a *significant* purpose. You can find hope in the face of uncertainty when you're relationship with Jesus is strong. When you choose to step out in faith and worship, grow, belong, serve, and share despite your uncertainty, you step into God's plan for you.

What step can you take this week?