

## BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, June 1, 2008

Passage: Luke 8:26-39

Memory Passage: John 10:10

**TODAY:** From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?

### DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 8:26-29.** Provide a description of the man that met Jesus. How had the demons affected his social relationships (Luke 8:27)? How does sin affect our relationships with others (Titus 3:3)?
- (b) What kinds of physical manifestations indicate that this man was not merely insane? Compare these with some other manifestations mentioned in Luke 9:38, 42 and Mark 9:20).
- (c) How is the power of Satan on people's lives described in 2 Timothy 2:25-26? What is another, more subtle way, that Satan affects people (2 Corinthians 4:3-4)? What does Satan ultimately do to people (John 10:10)
- (d) How does the Bible describe the effects of sin on people (John 8:34; 2 Peter 2:19; Romans 6:6)? What does sin *promise* to give us (2 Peter 2:19); what does it ultimately do to us (James 1:14-15)?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 8:26-29 and John 10:10. Talk together about the effects of sin on our lives? Is everyone as bad off as this demon possessed man? How is this man a picture of the ultimate destruction of sin? Compare this with what Jesus does for a person (John 10:10). Pray that you might always be aware of the destructive power of sin in your own lives.

### DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 8:28.** What surprising statement do the demons make about Jesus? How do they know his name? What title do they give to him?
- (b) Compare this with the statement made by the demon possessed man in Luke 4:33-36 (also Luke 4:41). Compare this man with the man that was living in the tombs. Is it possible to be under the influence of Satan and not look like it socially?
- (c) What does James 2:19 tell us about the beliefs of the demons? Discuss the difference between "belief" and faith. Did the demons have the right beliefs? Did they have faith?
- (d) Read John 8:42-45. What does Jesus accuse the religious Pharisees of being? Why is it that they cannot (or will not) accept His word? What does this tell us about the nature of a true believer?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 8:28 and James 2:19. Discuss the difference between belief and faith. Is it possible to have all the right doctrine and still not be a Christian? Pray for someone who is a good religious person but does not seem to know Christ.

### DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 8:30-33.** What question does Jesus ask the man and what does his answer reveal about *how severe* the demon possession is (compare Mark 16:9)?
- (b) What is the abyss that these demons fear (Revelation 21:14-15)? What does Matthew 8:29 tell about the reason for their request? Who else will end up there (Matthew 25:41)?
- (c) Why did they want to go into the pigs (Matthew 12:43-45)? According to Matthew 12, why is it important to do *more* than just deal with sin? What happened to the pigs? What does this also tell us about the nature of demonic forces (John 10:10; 8:44)? What name is Satan given in Revelation 9:11? What does this name mean?
- (d) Are there areas where Satan affects us because we give into sin (Ephesians 4:26-27)? What can we do to protect ourselves (Ephesians 6:10-18; 2 Corinthians 10:4-5; James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:8)?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 8:30-34 and Matthew 12:43-45. What is the difference between the influence of Satan and demon possession? How can we protect ourselves from falling under the bondage of Satan? Pray that you might take every thought and action captive to Christ this week.

### DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 8:34-36.** What did the people of the town find when they returned? Compare his condition now with his condition before.
- (b) What had Jesus done to deliver this man (Luke 8:29, 32)? Read Luke 11:17-20. Usually, when the Bible speaks of God's power it speaks of His arm. What is the significance of Jesus saying he does so by the finger of God?

- (c) What kind of power did the demon have over the man (Luke 8:29)? How strong were they? What does this teach us about the power of Jesus even over the supernatural?
- (d) What does “sitting at the feet of Jesus” indicate about this man (Luke 10:39)? What have we learned about the change toward the Word of God that indicates a person has been converted (1 Corinthians 2:14; 1 Peter 2:1-3)?
- (e) *Family*: Read Luke 8:34-36 and 1 Peter 2:1-3. Discuss the importance of growing in God’s Word. Spend some time thanking God for giving us His Word.

**DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**

**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Luke 8:37-39.** How do the town’s people react to the healing of the man? What is strange about their reaction?
- (b) How did the people of Philippi respond to Paul and Silas, even after a great miracle (Acts 16:39)? Why do people respond this way? What are some reasons they might have responded this way?
- (c) How did the demon possessed man respond? What is another indication of true conversion seen in this man’s desire (Philippians 1:23; John 14:3; John 17:24; 2 Corinthians 5:8)?
- (d) What did Jesus tell him to do instead? How does he describe this? *Who* does Jesus tell him to say has done great things for him? Who does the man say did these things? What does this say about who he believes Jesus to be?
- (e) *Family*: Read Luke 8:37-39. Talk together about some of the things the Lord has done for you? How can you share this with others so that they can hear about Jesus? Pray for an opportunity to give a testimony about the Lord’s goodness to you.

**DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**

**READ THE PASSAGE**

*Think back through what you have learned each day this week.* Read Luke 8:26-39. What does this passage teach about the destructive nature of sin? How does sin bind people both literally and symbolically? How can we protect ourselves from falling into Satan’s power? What is the difference between faith and belief? How can you tell others about the great things the Lord has done for you? Pray for the worship tomorrow that the greatness of the Lord might be evident to all.

**DATE:** June 1, 2008

**PASSAGE:** Luke 8:26-39

***Power over Satan***

*“sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind.”*