



# Miracles and Mercy

## Mark 5

*The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; 23 they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.*

**Lamentations 3:22-23**

### What These Miracles Teach Us:

#### [1] Restoration [Newness and Wholeness]

[Joel 2:25; 2 Corinthians 5:17]

#### [2] Spiritual Warfare [Reality]

[Ephesians 6:10-13]

#### [3] Belief [Expectation of Faith]

[Hebrews 11:1, Romans 15:13, Jeremiah 29:11]

#### [4] Ministry of Presence [Essential]

[Galatians 6:2]

### Study Questions/Prayer

[1] Read Mark 5:6-13. How does the interaction in these verses between Jesus and the demon-possessed man demonstrate the power and authority of Jesus over evil spirits?

[2] Read Mark 5:35-43. How does the healing of Jairus' daughter illustrate the importance of faith and belief in Jesus' power to perform miracles?

[3] This whole chapter is about the ministry of presence. When was the last time you were present in a person's life during a crisis? What do you do right, and what would you have done differently?

*Pray that God will place you in a situation where you can reflect God's love through the ministry of presence.*

**[Mark 5:1-5] [Setting]** <sup>1</sup> They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. [part of a Syrian group of cities near Galilee called the Decapolis] <sup>2</sup> And when Jesus had stepped out of the boat, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit. [Luke records the man had been in this state for a long time - and he wore no clothes]

He was a madman among the tombs, hurting the only person he could - himself. [Gudzik, EWC]

**[Intense Bio]** <sup>3</sup> He lived among the tombs. (this tells us that the man had run about two miles to get to Jesus - tombs were not at the edge of the lake, but in caverns two miles away) And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain, <sup>4</sup> for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. (binding was practice of the day) No one had the strength to subdue him. <sup>5</sup> Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out and cutting himself with stones (pointed to demonic worship by the man against his will).

**[Mark 5:6-13] [Desperate Man]** <sup>6</sup> And when he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and fell down before him. <sup>7</sup> And crying out with a loud voice, he said, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of [Matthew 4:3, 6, 14:33] the Most High God? [Genesis 14:18, Numbers 24:16, Psalm 57:2, Daniel 3:26, Luke 1:32, 6:35, Acts 16:17] I adjure you by God, do not torment me." [admission of the presence Jehovah] <sup>8</sup> For Jesus was saying to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" [James 2:19] <sup>9</sup> And Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion, for we are many." [Latin term that described a Roman military unit of 3,000-6,000 infantrymen] <sup>10</sup> And the demons begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country.

**[Interesting Solution]** <sup>11</sup> Now a great herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, <sup>12</sup> and they begged Jesus, saying, "Send us to the pigs; let us enter them." <sup>13</sup> So Jesus gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the pigs; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned in the sea. [Jesus gave the man a graphic, visible, and powerful lesson on the immensity of the evil from which he had been delivered.]

**[Mark 5:14-20] [Three Responses]** [1] The herdsmen fled and told [proclaimed] it in the city and in the country. And people came to see what it was that had happened. <sup>15</sup> And they came to Jesus and saw the demon-possessed man, the one who had had the legion, sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, [2] and they were afraid. <sup>16</sup> And those who had seen it described to them what had happened to the demon-possessed man and to the pigs. <sup>17</sup> And they began to beg Jesus to depart from their region. [3] <sup>18</sup> As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him. <sup>19</sup> And he did not permit him but said to him, "Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." [Psalm 66:16] <sup>20</sup> And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled.

**[Mark 5:21-24] [Desperate Father]** <sup>21</sup> And when Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about him, and he was beside the sea. **[immense popularity]** <sup>22</sup> Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, **[Matthew 9:18-9:26, Luke 8:41-56]** Jairus by name, **[may Yahweh awaken or enlighten - He shines]** and seeing him, he fell at his feet <sup>23</sup> and implored him earnestly **[passionate plea]**, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live." <sup>24</sup> And he went with him. And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him.

Requests like Jairus' was a common practice of the day.  
What was unusual? The official's confidence that Jesus could heal his daughter

**[Mark 5:25-34] [Desperate Woman]** <sup>25</sup> And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, **[Leviticus 15:25-30]** <sup>26</sup> and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. **[frustration that leads to hopelessness]**

Proverbs 13:12 - Hope deferred makes the heart sick...

<sup>27</sup> She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. <sup>28</sup> For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I will be made well." <sup>29</sup> And **immediately** the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. <sup>30</sup> And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, **[Luke 5:17, 6:19, 8:46, Acts 10:38]** **immediately** turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?" <sup>31</sup> And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, 'Who touched me?'" <sup>32</sup> And he looked around to see who had done it. <sup>33</sup> But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. <sup>34</sup> And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; [Luke 7:50] go in peace, and be healed of your disease." **[Mark 5:29, 3:10]**

**[Mark 5:35-43] [Prayer Answered]** <sup>35</sup> While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler's house some who said, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?" <sup>36</sup> But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." <sup>37</sup> And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. <sup>38</sup> They came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. <sup>39</sup> And when he had entered, he said to them, "Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping." **[John 11:11]** <sup>40</sup> And they laughed at him. But he put them all outside **[Acts 9:40]** and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. <sup>41</sup> Taking her by the hand he said to her, "Talitha cumi," which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise." **[Luke 7:14, 7:22, Matthew 11:5, John 11:43]** <sup>42</sup> And **immediately** the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were **immediately** overcome with amazement. <sup>43</sup> And he strictly charged them that no one should know this, **[9:9, Matthew 8:4]** and told them to give her something to eat.

A great miracle is recorded in these verses. A dead girl is restored to life. Mighty as the king of terrors is, there is one mightier than he. The keys of death are in our Lord Jesus Christ's hands.  
He will one day swallow up death for all time (Isaiah 25:8). [RYLE]

**"THROUGH PETER'S EYES"**  
**THE READING CHALLENGE [GOSPEL OF MARK]**

Read Mark 6-7

Answer the question: What did you learn about Jesus in this chapter?