



**Series** The Journey Matters

**Passage** Luke 8:26-39.

**Title** Leading a Fully Engaged Life

**Speaker:** Pastor J.C Cooper – 10/7/2018

**Discussion Starter** – We all are looking forward to the end of some kind of journey; for example, the end of a difficult season, training for a marathon ☺, raising kids, getting married, or just living our lives. Are you fully engaged in these journeys? even if difficult? What might we miss by focusing too much on the goal or the individual steps?

### **Be Present and Ready at Every Moment of the Journey (verses 26-28)**

- Context: Who were the witnesses to Jesus' confrontation with the possessed man? Location of the confrontation? What had just previously occurred?
- How do you feel about interacting with people that may be a little different from you (different culture, socially awkward, strange/scary in your opinion)? How did Jesus treat the possessed man? How does Jesus show that he values people that we may see as unworthy? (See Ephesians 2:1-3, also verse 33).

### **The Authority of Jesus Demands Worship and Obedience (verses 28-29)**

- The possessed man was a slave of the demons. How is the possessed man like us? How is he different? What advantage do we have?
- What does it mean that, "Our authority is in Jesus" (See Ephesians 1:21-22)?

### **Our Identity Should be in Christ Alone (Verse 30-33)**

- How does our identity (name) change when we become believers? Where does the identity of the possessed man originate prior to his transformation? (See Col 3:3)
- Who do the demons say Jesus is? Why do the demons come to Jesus? How is this different for us?
- It is interesting that the demons knew their final destination (the abyss)? How does this demonstrate the identity of Jesus?

### **Jesus Transforms Our Lives by Covering Our Sin and Shame (verse 34-37)**

- What is Satan's intention for us? What is Jesus's intention for us? Do we get to choose? Did the possessed man choose between Jesus and Satan? Who chose whom first?
- How does the condition of the possessed man change? How is this a picture of our spiritual condition and transformation?
- How did the Gentile witnesses react to the transformation of the possessed man?

### **We are Called to Tell the Story of What God Has done for Us (verse 38-39)**

- How did Jesus respond to the Gentile witnesses? How should we respond to people that are unresponsive to Jesus' invitation to salvation?
- What is your first ministry? (verse 39). Why is this so important? What does it say about God's intention for us?