

## Our Fear Fears Jesus

Sunday February 7, 2021

### Risk Aversion

Are you the type of person who is comfortable with risk? Why or why not?

Have you ever put aside your aversion to risk because you were with someone who had expertise? Give an example:

What traits/qualities do you look for in a leader when there is risk at play?

### The Dark Side (Mk. 4:41)

Why was the Decapolis an unusual choice of destination for Jesus and His followers?

Has someone's lack of fear ever made you feel uncomfortable with them? Give an example:

### Jesus Is Unafraid (Mk. 5:2-5)

Who/what did Jesus and His disciples encounter when they arrived at their destination?

What sort of places does your Jesus spend His time? Is He predictable?

### Our Fears Fear Jesus (Mk. 5:6-10)

What do you think was the chief motivator for Jesus to seek this man out?

What is the demon's response to Jesus? Who do they see Him to be?

How would we treat Jesus differently if we understood that our fears are actually afraid of Him?

### When Pigs Swim? (Mk. 5:11-17)

Why do you think the demons wanted to go into the pigs?

What do you think was the symbolism behind the pigs rushing into the sea?

What was the town's response to Jesus? Why did they respond this way?

### Go & Tell (Mk. 5:18-20)

*In most situations where Jesus miraculously helps someone, He tells them to be quiet about it. Here, however, He encourages this man to go tell His family.*

Why do you think He does this?

You can see the impact of this man's testimony in Mark 7 & 8 when Jesus returns to the Decapolis. What are some things that happen?

### Take It Home:

1. In every encounter in this story, people are in awe of Jesus. Does your perspective of His identity and ability need to change to line up?
2. In what ways does the presence of Jesus give you confidence to face life?
3. What fears in your life need to bow to the authority and power of Jesus?
4. Will you follow Jesus into areas of fear so that His compassion can be displayed through you? What fears might hold you back from this?

**Challenge:** Take the time to write a letter to Jesus explaining what areas of your life seem to be outside his authority or influence. It's OK, Jesus won't be surprised or mad. Then, if you are comfortable, share in a life group or with someone who you know will pray with you.