

Family Worship

Jesus & The Tomb Dweller

16.5.2021

Opening Prayer

Our Heavenly Father, thank you for our family.

And thank you for the privilege of coming together for worship.

Help us to understand Your Word and obey it with a joyful heart.

In Jesus name, we pray. Amen.

There Is A Higher Throne

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zvDSG4s5FJw>



Catechism Time!

Bible truths for teaching children

Question 44

Q: What is baptism?

A: Baptism is the washing with water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; it signifies and seals our adoption into Christ, our cleansing from sin, and our commitment to belong to the Lord and to his church.



Bible verse (Matthew 28:19)

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. . . .

Last Sunday



Pastor Tom spoke to us last Sunday.

He used to live in Africa. He said some of his African journeys were rather memorable, like the one in the photo ;)

He shared with us one of Jesus' journeys from Luke chapter 8.

Last Sunday



Jesus' journey began when a large crowd was gathering around him. He taught them a parable about a sower who sowed seeds. Some seeds fell on good places and were able to grow, some fell on bad spots and weren't able to survive.



Afterwards Jesus told his disciples to get into a boat because he wanted to go to the other side of the lake. The weather soon turned nasty and they were caught in a storm! Jesus, however, fell asleep. His disciples were really afraid and woke Jesus. He got up, rebuked the wind and waves, and all was calm again. In fear and amazement, his disciples asked, "Who is this...?"

They arrived on the other side of the lake where Gentiles (non-Jews) lived. Jews would normally avoid travelling there because they considered Gentiles "unclean". A man suddenly came up to Jesus. He lived in the tombs and had supernatural strength...

Let's Open Up the Bible

Luke 8:26-39

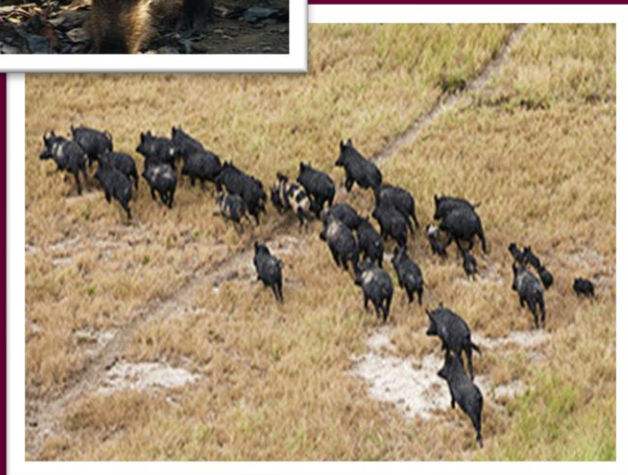
They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across the lake from Galilee. When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town.

For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs.

When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, 'What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torture me!'

For Jesus had commanded the impure spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places.





Jesus asked him, 'What is your name?'

'Legion,' he replied, because many demons had gone into him. And they begged Jesus repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss.

A large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into the pigs, and he gave them permission. When the demons came out of the man, they went into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

When those tending the pigs saw what had happened, they ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid.



Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed man had been cured. Then all the people of the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were overcome with fear. So he got into the boat and left.



The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, 'Return home and tell how much God has done for you.'



So the man went away and told all over the town how much Jesus had done for him.

What was the "man" like?

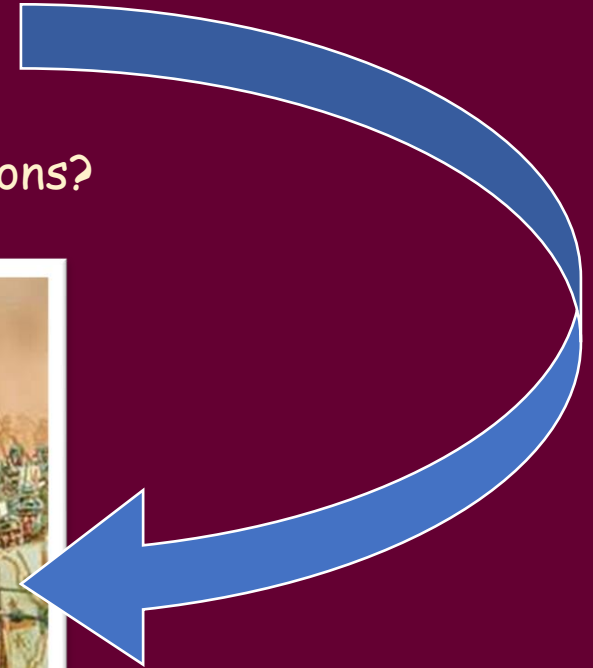
What makes a person human?

- Did the man have dignity?
- Was he reasonable?
- Was he dressed properly?
- Was he able to make decisions?
- Did he know his own name?
- Could he think?
- Could he love others?
- Did he contribute to society?
- Was he created in God's image?



Family Discussion

1. It was strange for Jesus to ask his disciples to go with him to *Gerasenes*, for it was *Gentile* (non-Jewish) territory. Why did Jesus want to go there?
2. When Jesus asked for the man's name, he replied "Legion". In the Roman army, a Legion consisted of 5000 soldiers (see picture)
 - Who was Jesus actually talking to?
 - Was the man possessed by one demon or many demons?



Family Discussion

3. Jesus granted the demons request to go into the pigs. They rushed down a steep bank into the lake and were drowned. Luke did not record the number of pigs but Mark's gospel tells us that the demons went into 2000 pigs!

- ❑ If pork costs £1.5 per kg, and one pig weighs 200 kg, what is the value of 2000 pigs? (i) £6,000 (ii) £60,000 (iii) £600,000
- ❑ Jesus granted the demons' request to go into the pigs. Why? (Hint: What was more valuable - the man or 2000 pigs?)
- ❑ In today's world, people are measured by their economic value, e.g.
 - Workers are valued by how much they produce
 - People are valued by how much they earn
 - Companies value their customers by how much they spend
 - What do you learn from this story about how God values us?

Family Discussion

4. When people came and saw the man sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind, they were (i) happy, (ii) sad, or (iii) afraid.
5. They even asked Jesus to leave them because they were afraid. What were they afraid of? Discuss (a) - (c).
 - a) They had lost lots of money already. They were afraid Jesus would cause more financial damage if he stayed longer.
 - b) They were afraid of change. They were so used to the man's behaviour that they became insensitive to his suffering.
 - c) They realised Jesus had great power. They didn't know for sure if such power was good or bad for them.
6. Jesus did not let the man go with him but said "Return home and tell how much God has done for you". The man thankfully obeyed because Jesus saved him from destruction and gave him a new life!
 - How much has God done for you?
 - Will you tell others how much God has done for you?

Summary

- ❖ Jesus loves everyone. We all are valuable in His eyes.
- ❖ Jesus journeyed through a rough storm and went into Gentile territory to save a man whom others thought had no value.
- ❖ In fact, Jesus journeyed a long way, from heaven to earth and finally to the cross, to save people. He gives new life to anyone who believes in Him.
- ❖ Like the man who went around telling people how Jesus saved him, Jesus wants us to do the same. He wants more people to hear the gospel and be saved.

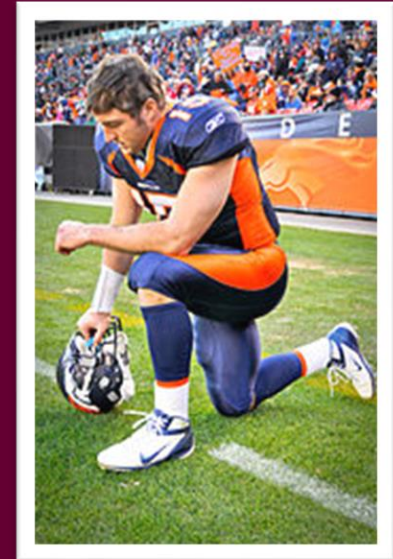
*Now let's hear
another true story*



Tim Tebow

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7WVnAbdHZao>

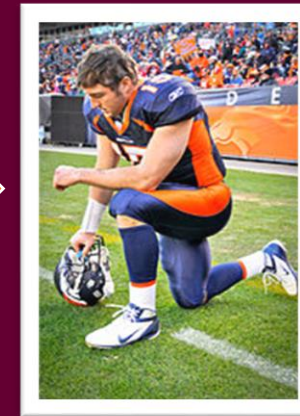
- ❑ Tim Tebow is a famous professional football and baseball player in America. At 20 years old, he was the best player in college football.
- ❑ He is a Christian. He kneels to pray before every match.
- ❑ Tim put "John 3:16" underneath his eyes when his team played at the national championship match. The game was broadcast live to millions. 94 million people googled John 3:16 during the match!
- ❑ Exactly 3 years later, Tim put on John 3:16 and played another game. Believe it or not, here are the statistics for that game:
 - He threw for 316 passing yards
 - He averaged 31.6 yards per completion
 - CBS's final ratings for the game was 31.6
 - Pittsburgh's final time of possession was 31:06



Tim Tebow's Testimony

"That night was not about a football game... It was about God."
- Tim Tebow

2000 years ago the Gerasenes man went around telling others about Jesus. People like Tim Tebow are doing the same today.



Whether you are a person others neglect, or a famous footballer, once you have experienced God's love, you want to tell others !

Family Prayer Time

1. Thank God for His Word and help so we may learn from Him.
2. Ask your children to pray for what they have learned just now.
3. Ask your family how you can pray for them specifically.

Because He Lives

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4M-zwE33zHA>

