

## Luke Chapter 8

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V: 1 Jesus, with His disciples accompanying Him, ministers throughout Galilee, preaching and showing “glad tidings”, the good news of the kingdom of God.

**Matthew 4:23** “And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.”

- The good news, the gospel – that God has sent His son to reconcile sinful man to a Holy and sinless God.

**John 3:16-17** “<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. <sup>17</sup>For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.”

V: 2-3 There were various women in the larger group of disciples that ministered to Jesus.

1. Mary Magdalene: Mary of Magdala / Dalmanutha, between Capernaum and Tiberias who had been delivered from demon possession.
2. Joanna: (Yahweh’s gift) wife of Chuza, Herod’s steward, also present at Jesus’ tomb after his crucifixion and resurrection.
3. Susanna: (Lily).
  - These three women along with others supported Jesus financially.
  - Like the Apostles, a diverse group of women.

V: 4-8 The Parable of the 4 soils:

V: 4 When a large crowd had gathered from various places: According to Matthew’s gospel (**Matthew 13:1**), this takes place in Capernaum just outside of Peter’s house.

Map – pictures – Capernaum, Peter’s house, Synagogue.

- The Parable account is identical except that Matthew gives us little more detail as to location and setting:

**Matthew 13:1-2** “<sup>1</sup>The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side. <sup>2</sup>And great multitudes were gathered together unto Him, so that He went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore.”

- The parables are allegorical in nature; while we don’t want to overly “spiritualize” the scriptures, there are times – as with the parables where this is how we examine them. As such we can see other possible allegorical elements in other parts of the passage as well.

- “The house” – Israel.
- “Sat by the sea” – the nations / gentiles.
- Jesus is no longer just talking to the Jews, but to everyone, including the gentiles.

**Romans 1:16** “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”

- The water with the natural landscape acts as an amplifier, it still does today.

*“... the whole multitude stood on the shore.”*

- This intimates an eagerness to see and hear the Lord.
- A casual, relaxed setting with a non-casual attitude.
- The Rabbi seated, the students standing and attentive.

**Nehemiah 8:5** “And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up.”

- Jesus spoke to them in a parable: “Paraballo” = “alongside”
- A story that relates a lesson about life based on a common situation or experience, in an agrarian culture planting seeds would be a common experience.

V: 5-8 The Parable of 4 soils.

- It seems foolish to try to explain something that in just a few verses Jesus Himself will explain in detail.

V: 5 The **way side** is a type of soil, in this case a “pathway” (like a side walk) it is also a type of heart or attitude; a hardened heart, in-penetrable.

- Jesus always addressed heart issues.
- The fowls / birds always represent the enemy, demonic presence.

V: 6 Some fell upon a **rock**...

**Matthew 13:5** “<sup>5</sup>Some fell upon **stony places**, where thy had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth: <sup>6</sup>And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.”

- This could easily be another heart condition.

**Ezekiel 36:26** (Heart surgery) “A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.”

**2 Corinthians 3:3** “Forasmuch as you are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.”

- Has all the looks of good / receptive soil – exterior, but interior is hardened to the things of the Lord. (POSER!)
- Christians talk about being “rooted and grounded” in God’s word, this passage points out that need - to be rooted & grounded in the Lord.

**Colossians 2:6-7** “<sup>6</sup>As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him: <sup>7</sup>Rooted and built up in Him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.”

**Ephesians 3:16-19** “<sup>16</sup>That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man; <sup>17</sup>that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup>may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; <sup>19</sup>and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.”

- It is important to have deep roots; they hold us fast during the storms, and they help you to last during the droughts.

V: 7 Jesus will later explain that these “thorns” are the cares of this life, the things that distract us, divert our attention and energy.

The issue is about right priorities:

**Matthew 6:33** “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”

**Matthew 22:27** “Jesus said unto him, thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.”

V: 8 Good ground, good soil, receptive and fertile

“*Hundredfold*” Isaac sowed in the land of Abimelech and reaped a hundred fold, because God was blessing him!

**Genesis 26:12** “Then Isaac sowed in the land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold; and the Lord blessed him.”

**Acts 17:11** “These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”

V: 8b “.... He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.”

- Jesus gave the same admonition to the 7 churches in **Rev. Ch’s. 2-3.**

**John 10:27** “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.”

- It follows that there will be some who don’t hear, those who don’t have ears to hear.
- The natural man, non-believer, cannot understand.

(turn to)

**1 Corinthians 2:9-14** “<sup>9</sup>But as it is written, eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. <sup>10</sup>But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. <sup>11</sup>For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. <sup>13</sup>Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. <sup>14</sup>But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.”

- Lacking the ability or the faculty to understand as a blind man can’t enjoy a sunset, or a deaf man appreciating music.
- Comparing the Gospels:  
**Mark 4:24** “take heed what you hear...”  
**Luke 8:18** “take heed how you hear... .”

**1 Thessalonians 2:13** “For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but at it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.”

V: 9 Lord, what does this mean? They do exactly right in asking Jesus what these things mean – He is the source of all wisdom and understanding.

**James 1:5** “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.”

**John 8:31-32** “<sup>31</sup>... if ye continue in My word, then are ye My disciples indeed; <sup>32</sup>And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

V: 10 Jesus explains that the disciples have a privilege in knowing and understanding that not all have – for a purpose.

- Matthew's Gospel includes another comment on the subject from Jesus:

**Matthew 13:12** "For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath."

- Those that know and embrace these truths shall be given more wisdom, those that don't embrace true wisdom shall have little they think they have taken away.

"Know" – "Ginosko"; to know by personal experience, to know intimately.

- Who gives this knowledge?

**1 Corinthians 2:10** "But God hath revealed them unto us by His spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea the deep things of God."

**John 14:26** "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

- As mentioned in Matthew's account, the one who receives and responds will gain even more insight. The ones who don't respond, even the little they have will be taken away.
- When we reject the wisdom of God, the counsel of God – what is left? The wisdom and counsel of this world – which is foolishness to God:

**Romans 1:21-22; 28** <sup>21</sup>Because that, when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. <sup>22</sup>Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools.

<sup>28</sup>And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;"

- Sadly, when we reject the truth, all that is left is the lie.

V: 10b "... that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand."

- Jesus is quoting from Isaiah.

**Isaiah 6:9-10** <sup>9</sup>And he said, go, and tell this people, hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. <sup>10</sup>Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they

see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.”

- Seeing doesn't necessarily equal recognizing.
- Hearing doesn't necessarily equal understanding.
- The condition of our heart, spiritual discernment is the key!

**Ezekiel 12:2** “Son of man, thou dwellest in the midst of a rebellious house, which have eyes to see, and see not; they have ears to hear, and hear not: for they are a rebellious house.”

- They have closed their own eyes.
- “There are none so blind as those who will not see.”

**2 Peter 3:5** “For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water.” (Darwinism)

**Psalms 119:18** “Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.”

V: 11-15 Jesus give the explanation:

V: 11 “The “seed” is the Word of God.”

- If the seed is the word of God, then who is the sower? Initially the sower is Jesus himself – we see Him sowing and spreading seed all over Galilee and Israel, then the Holy Spirit uses all of us to sow the “seed” as we follow Jesus.

**Psalms 19:7-11** “<sup>7</sup>The Law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. <sup>8</sup>The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. <sup>9</sup>The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. <sup>10</sup>More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. <sup>11</sup>Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.”

**2 Timothy 3:16-17** “<sup>16</sup>All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: <sup>17</sup>That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

V: 12 “**Wayside**” - Those that hear initially, then the devil / fowls come and takes it away –out of their heart, before it can germinate.

- V: 5 indicates that just before it was snatched away, “it was trodden down” – walked on, wasn't appreciated for what it is.

**Matthew 7:6** “Give not that which is Holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.”

- God’s word needs to be valued and appreciated for what it is, otherwise we’ll leave it laying around – and it’ll get snatched up by the enemy.

**1 Thessalonians 2:13** “For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.”

**Psalms 119:11** “Thy word have I hidden in my heart that I might not sin against thee.”

Parallel account:

**Matthew 13:19** “When anyone heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.”

- Understanding is key: receiving instruction, study, perseverance.

**2 Timothy 2:15** “Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

**Hebrews 4:2** “For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.”

**Jeremiah 17:23** “But they obeyed not, neither inclined their ear, but made their neck stiff, that they might not hear, nor receive instruction.”

**Jeremiah 32:33** “And they have turned unto me the back, and not the face: though I taught them, rising up early and teaching them, yet they have not hearkened to receive instruction.”

**1 Corinthians 2:14** “But the natural man receiveth not the things of the spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.”

V: 13 **Rocky soil / stony ground**: received with joy, but also with shallow, untested faith.

**Matthew 13:20-21** “<sup>20</sup>But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; <sup>21</sup>yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.”

**2 Timothy 3:12** “Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.”

- Shallow dirt – “bowl” – no deep roots.
- A warm rock, causes early / immediate germination.
- Seed germinating in my truck, little green plant.

**Ephesians 3:16-19** “<sup>16</sup>That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man; <sup>17</sup>that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup>may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; <sup>19</sup>and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.”

**Colossians 2:6-7** “<sup>6</sup>As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him: <sup>7</sup>Rooted and built up in Him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.”

- What is it that gives us deep roots? Trials and tribulations.

**James 1:3-4** “<sup>3</sup>Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. <sup>4</sup>But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.”

V: 14 **Among thorns**: hear the word and begin to move forward but...

**Matthew 13:22** “He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.”

The woman at the well:

**John 4:13-14** “<sup>13</sup>Jesus and said unto her, whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: <sup>14</sup>But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.”

- We think that riches will satisfy, but they don't, or that hobby, or relationship, and on it goes.

**1 Timothy 6:6** “But godliness with contentment is great gain.”

**Matthew 6:24** “No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.”

Priorities & choices:

**Matthew 6:33** “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”

**Joshua 24:15** “And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served



that were on the other side of the flood / river, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”.

- We must all choose.

V: 14b “... *and bring no fruit to perfection.*” A fruitless life is not a truly Christian life, a fruitless life is a failed – un-Christian life.

**John 15:1-6** “<sup>1</sup>I am the true vine, and My Father is the husbandman. <sup>2</sup>Every branch in me that beareth not fruit He taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, He purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. <sup>3</sup>Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in Me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without Me ye can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If a man abide not in Me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.”

- The branches that do not bear fruit are cut off, cast down, and burned in the fire – the result of their own choice.
- Before we get to the “good soil” notice that 3 out of 4 have ended up not producing fruit – scary to say the least.

V: 15 **Good ground:**

- Attributes: honest & good heart, hearing the word, keeping the word, bearing fruit with patience or in due time.

**Matthew 13:23** “But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.”

**Matthew 25:** Parable of the “talents” – 5, 2, 1 producing 10, 4, 0

- The two that produced anything were commended and rewarded; only the one who didn’t produce any fruit was cast out – this is a consistency in God’s word.

What is fruit? Gift of tongues? (no necessarily...)

**James 3:18** “And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.”

**Romans 6:20-22** “<sup>20</sup>For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness. <sup>21</sup>What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup>But now being

made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.”

**Romans 1:13** “Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, but was let / hindered hitherto, that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other Gentiles. (Souls)

**Galatians 5:22-23** <sup>22</sup>“But the fruit of the Spirit is love; joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, <sup>23</sup>meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.”

**Philippians 4:15-17** <sup>15</sup>“Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. <sup>16</sup>For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and gain unto my necessity. <sup>17</sup>Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.”

**Colossians 1:10** “That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;”

**Hebrews 13:15**

- Praise
- The average seed to harvest ratio is 8 to 1; the Word of God yields much more, 30-60-100 fold!

**Isaiah 55:11** “So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”

- Plow! Prepare the soil, break it up!

**Jeremiah 4:3** “Break up your fallow ground, sow not among thorns.”

**Exodus 20:1-17**, use the plow / 10 commandments.

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**John 10:10** “... I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”

**John 15:8** “Herein is My Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be My disciples.”

V: 16 Light has purpose – illumination.

**Psalms 119:105** “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

**Psalms 119:130** “The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.”

Context:

**Matthew 5:15-16** “<sup>15</sup>Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. <sup>16</sup>Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

- Jesus is our light.

**John 8:12** “Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”

V: 17 One day all secrets will be revealed, thoughts, motives, attitudes, secret desires, – everything.

V: 18 Take heed, be careful – how we hear.

- Attributes of the good soil: Honest & good heart, hearing the word, keeping the word, bearing fruit

**1 Thessalonians 2:13** “For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but at it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.”

**John 10:27** “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.”

*“To whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whoever hath not, from shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have.”*

- The one who receives and responds will gain even more insight. The ones who don't respond, even the little they have will be taken away.
- When we reject the wisdom of God, the counsel of God – what is left? The wisdom and counsel of this world – which is foolishness to God:

**Romans 1:21-22; 28** “<sup>21</sup>Because that, when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. <sup>22</sup>Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools.

“<sup>28</sup>And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;”

- Sadly, when we reject the truth, all that is left is the lie.

V: 19-20 As Jesus finishes His teaching on the parables of the sower His mother and family came to see Him.

- “Mother and brothers”, this directly refutes the heretical teaching of the Roman Catholic Church that Mary was a “perpetual virgin” – the Bible does not attempt to present her as such.
- The writers of all 4 Gospels refer to Jesus’ half brothers and sisters at some point:

**Matthew 13:55-56** <sup>55</sup>“Is not this the carpenter’s son? Is not His mother called Mary? And His brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? <sup>56</sup>And His sisters, are thy not all with us? Whence then hath this man all these things?”

Paul addressing the issue of being an Apostle and living a normal life:

**1 Corinthians 9:5** “Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, as well as other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas”

- James & Jude both come to the Lord after the resurrection of Christ and are recorded in the book of Acts as early leaders in the church. Both would later write books of the Bible each bearing their names – all making it very difficult to deny that Jesus had ½ brothers by His mother Mary.
- As Jesus acknowledges His mother and brethren in the next verse, the issue is or should be pretty well settled.

V: 21 Jesus answered them using this situation with His earthly blood relatives to state that His real relatives, those whom He has a true relationship with are those who hear the word of God and do it.

**James 1:22** “But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

V: 22-25 Calming the storm, and the hearts of the Apostles, on the Sea of Galilee.

V: 22-23 Jesus leads His disciples into the boat and says lets go to the other side of the lake.

- The sea of Galilee is 680’ below sea level, Mt. Hermon is 9,280’ above sea level. As the cold air from above meets the hot air from below it creates quite a stir = 25’ waves measured from the back, 40’ on the face.
- Matthew’s Gospel records that they were “covered with the waves”
- Jesus was tired enough to fall asleep, and to sleep through it – peace!

**Isaiah 26:3** “Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee, because he trusteth in Thee.”

Jesus gives us of what is His:

**John 14:27** “Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

**Mark 4:38** “And He was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow...”

- Hinder part of the ship is where the rudder is, Jesus was still guiding the boat. For the most part ships were not pleasure crafts, they were working fishing boats – no pillows – this will come into play with the demoniac.
- Jesus is at peace, but the disciples are panicking, they conclude that they are about to be lost, the boat is in jeopardy, about to sink in the storm.

V: 24 The disciples correctly went to Jesus when they were afraid.

- They woke Jesus up and He immediately rebukes / commanded the storm to cease; and it did!

**Mark 4:39** “And He arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still! And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.”

- “Peace be still” = be “muzzled”, as in a wild dog.
- When Jesus issues a command, things happen.

V: 25 Where is your faith? Faith and fear are mutually exclusive, they cannot co-exist.

**1 John 4:18** “There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.”

**Mark 4:40** “And He said unto them, why are ye so fearful? How is it that ye have no faith.”

What manner of “man”:

- This is part of a progression in their growth that will lead to **Matthew 16:13-16**

**Matthew 16:13-16** “<sup>13</sup>When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, whom do men say that I the Son of Man am? <sup>14</sup>And they said, some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. <sup>15</sup>He saith unto them, but whom say ye that I am? <sup>16</sup>And Simon Peter answered and said, **thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God.**”

V: 26-40 The demoniacs of Gadara. Parallel passages in both Matthew & Mark.

- There are a couple of stories behind the story here:

- Gadarenes? Descendants of the tribe of Gad – Jews.
- **Numbers 32:1-5** Reuben, Gad, ½ tribe of Manasseh , settled on the wrong side of the Jordan Vs going into the promise land as God had commanded.
- They settled for less than God's best for them.
- They eventually went from raising cattle to pig ranchers; one compromise usually leads to another.
- Jesus describes the prodigal son in Luke 15 – who turned away from his father to live in the flesh, and is finally reduced to what occupation? Swine herder, pig feeder – the story ends well with his restoration into fellowship, as it does at least for this one descendant of Gad.

The other story is alluded to in the Gospel of Mark:

**Mark 5:3-5** “<sup>3</sup>Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains: <sup>4</sup>Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him. <sup>5</sup>And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones.”

**Map:** Capernaum to Kursi and the acoustics of the Lake:

- Everyone in Capernaum could probably hear the demoniacs in Kursi night by night, like living across the street from the party house – it gets tiresome.
- Jesus was asleep on a “pillow” – there aren’t pillows on fishing boats, but we do later read that the demoniac was “clothed” and in his right mind – where did the clothes come from? The pillow that Jesus slept on was probably a bundle of clothes for naked and soon to be clothed former demoniac.
- Jesus not only personally delivered the demoniac from his torment, but He also did a public service to all those that had to put up with the racket.

V: 26-27 After the storm is calmed, they make land at Gadera / Kursi and are welcomed by a demon possessed man, a naked wild man that no one could tame.

V: 28-29 The demon immediately recognized his creator, he knows who Jesus is, but recognition is not the same as placing your trust in Him, worshipping Him or having a personal relationship with Him, knowing of Him, as opposed to knowing Him.

**Matthew 8:29** “And, behold, they cried out, saying, what have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? Art thou come hither to torment us before the time?”

- The demons know what is in store for them; they know the end of the story – their main goal is to take as many people to hell with them before they themselves go.

**James 2:19** “Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.”

V: 30-34 Jesus commanded Satan to go, **Matthew 4:10**, and he did.

- They not only knew who Jesus is, but they knew His character and what He was likely to do.

What is your name, what is your situation - Jacob – time of truth:

- Legion (6,000)
- They didn't want to be cast into the abyss prematurely.
- 2,000 pigs – **Mark 5:13**.
- Once the demons had gone into the swine, they ran down the hill at a steep place and drowned in the sea of Galilee.
- There is only one steep place along the shore of Galilee, at Gadera, or modern day Kursi, just below Ramot.
- Map / pictures
- The swine herders ran away in fear to tell those in the city.

Satan robs man of their sanity, and self control, humiliates them (naked).

- Satan fills them with fear, robs them of their love and joy, their family, and home.

❖ This is a picture of life dominating sin.

- Satan leads them, and us if we are foolish enough, to death and Hell.
- Then as now, society was unable to change, un-chain, or help these men, only the power of Jesus Christ was able to change their hearts, set them free, and heal them.

Jesus gives an admonition:

**Matthew 12:43-45** “<sup>43</sup>When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. <sup>44</sup>Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. <sup>45</sup>Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.”

- There is no void, nature abhors a void – if we put something off, then we must put something on.

- Alcohol, drugs, pornography, gambling, promiscuity, life dominating sin... must be replaced with the righteousness of God.

**1 John 4:4** “Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world.”

**1 Corinthians 3:16** “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”

- Jesus spoke and they were healed – the Word of God impacted their lives.

V: 35-36 The people from the city came out to see what had happened, when they came they saw the demon possessed man sitting with Jesus, clothed, and in his right mind.

- Why did this cause them to fear: consistent response – because suddenly to them God is real, this is the power of God who will one day judge their sins and they will be found wanting.
- By what means he was made whole – V: 29 By Jesus giving the command, speaking, by the Word of God.

**Psalm 19:7-9** “<sup>7</sup>The Law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. <sup>8</sup>The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. <sup>9</sup>The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.”

**Psalm 119:165** “Great peace have they that love thy law, nothing shall cause them to stumble.”

**Isaiah 26:3** “Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.”

V: 37 The community at large asks Jesus to leave – dead pigs? Economic decision? Conviction? Light cannot co-exist with darkness?

**John 3:19** “And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.”

**Matthew 7:6** talks about not casting our pearls before swine, and here we see why. Having no capacity for God they chose their pigs, their money, over God.

**Matthew 6:24** “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will hold to the one and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.”



V: 38-39 After being delivered, like Mary Magdelene, this man wanted to stay with Jesus, and Jesus said “no” – go home and testify to your family and friends how God delivered you.

- There were three prayers in this last scenario:
  1. The demons – **V:31** Answer: “yes”
  2. Gadarenes – **V: 37** Answer: “yes”
  3. Restored Men – **V: 38** Answer: “no”
- Would we allow God to tell us “no”, would we serve Him and glorify Him anyway?
- But God I wanted Job / husband / heal my mom / to get me out of this!
- Would we be content, is it enough to just be clothed in His righteousness, to be in our right mind, and in a right relationship with Him?

**1 Timothy 6:6** “But Godliness with contentment is great gain.”

**Romans 5:3-5** “<sup>3</sup>And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; <sup>4</sup>and patience, experience; and experience, hope: <sup>5</sup>and hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.”

V: 39b He was obedient!

- God’s progressive work in our lives.

**Philippians 1:6** “Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ;”

V: 40 The story doesn’t end here:

**Mark 5:18-19** “<sup>18</sup>And when he was come into the ship, he that had been possessed with the devil prayed Him that he might be with Him. <sup>19</sup>Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee.”

- The restored men were sent home to be a witness. Ministry starts at home!
- Jesus later returned to this area – **Matthew 14:34-36** – and received a warm welcome back due to the testimony of this man, and many were healed and believed.

**Isaiah 55:8-9** “<sup>8</sup>For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, saith the Lord. <sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”

V: 41-42      Jairus, ruler of the synagogue – in Capernaum.

- Parallel accounts: **Matthew 9:18-19, 23-26, Mark 5:22-24, 35-43.**
- Jairus is the Greek transliteration of the Hebrew name Jair which means “Jah will enlighten”. Jairus himself is about to be “enlightened”.
- Jairus is the ruler of the synagogue in Capernaum – he was probably involved in helping the centurion who’s servant was sick and subsequently healed by Jesus.
- His daughter is sick, but he’s waited until she’s almost to the point of death and now in seeming desperation he throws himself at Jesus’ feet.
- Jairus fell down at Jesus’ feet, a sign of desperation and deep humility; Matthew’s Gospel say he “worshipped” Jesus –

**Matthew 9:18**      “While He spake these things unto them, behold, there came a certain ruler, and worshipped Him, saying, my daughter is even now dead: but come and lay thy hand upon her, and she shall live.”

- “Worshipped” – this particular word is only used in reference to worshipping God. The same as the leper in **Matthew 8:2.**

“**Worshipped**” (G4352) proskuneo, pros-koo-neh'-o; to kiss, like a dog licking his master's hand; to fawn or crouch to, i.e. (lit. or fig.) prostrate oneself in homage (do reverence to, adore), worship.

- What must this have looked like to the other members of the ruling council in Capernaum? This would probably cause Jairus to lose his position and standing amongst the Jews.
- Correct priorities! Jairus truly loved his Daughter over his job or position.\
- Then the interruption.

V: 43-48      The woman with an issue of blood – a parenthetical break.

Parallel accounts: **Matthew 9:20-22, Mark 5:25-34** (most complete).

- A stark contrast:
  1. A man of standing and reputation vs: a woman of no standing or reputation.
  2. A man who prided himself on ceremonial cleanliness, a woman in a state of defilement.
  3. A man of wealth, a woman destitute and poor.
  4. A man with his family around him, a woman seemingly on her own.
  5. Jairus had seen 12 years of life and blessing through his daughter, the woman has been dying for the last 12 years as life flowed from her.

**Leviticus 17:11** “For the life of the flesh is in the blood...”

- Similarities: Both were in desperate need, humbled themselves before Jesus, both ministered to by Jesus – their needs were met.

V: 43 She has spent all of her living, all her money over these 12 years on doctors, and they couldn't help her.

- Similar to the demoniac, they had tried to bind him and do everything humanly possible – all to no avail. Both this woman and Jairus had exhausted all other means and had no where else to go.

**John 6:67-68** <sup>67</sup>then said Jesus unto the twelve, will ye also go away?  
<sup>68</sup>Then Simon Peter answered Him, Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life.”

**Zechariah 4:6** “... this is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.”

V: 44 She came in the press from behind, and touched His garment.

- People trying to get Jesus' attention, like Jairus, approached from the front, she didn't want to detain Jesus, just to touch Him.

**Leviticus 15:19-30** The issue of blood made this woman “un-clean”.

- The woman was un-touchable, an outcast – she was breaking the rules to move through the crowd to approach Jesus.

*“Touching the hem / border of His garment.”*

**Mark 5:27-28** <sup>27</sup>When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched His garment. <sup>28</sup>For she said, if I may touch but His clothes, I shall be whole.”

- The hem of the garment represented power and righteousness, and it's low to the ground. You can't touch it without bowing down – an act of humility.

**James 4:6** “... God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.”

*“And immediately her issue of blood stanch'd / dried up”.*

“Trigger of faith”

**Acts 5:15** “Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing my might overshadow some of them.”

**Acts 19:11-12** “<sup>11</sup>And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul:  
<sup>12</sup>So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or  
aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out  
of them.”

- “straightway” – “immediately” – she knows she’s been healed.
- But that is not the end of the story.

V: 45-46 Jesus – who touched Me?

- Did Jesus really not know? He was drawing something out – a testimony that would give glory to God.
- Real deliverance & salvation involve humility – never arrogance.

V: 47-48 She fell down before Him – for that to have happened, He had to have turned around to meet her.

- She may have thought that she would now be chastised for being in the crowd against the tenants of the Mosaic law, or that she would be rebuked for reaching out and possibly defiling Him

**John 1:17** “For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.”

- She humbly gave testimony, and in so doing she gave glory to God!

“*Daughter...*” = relationship.

“... *be of good comfort...*” He is comforting her and at the same time drawing out a testimony that will be a comfort to others.

**2 Corinthians 1:3-4** “<sup>3</sup>Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; <sup>4</sup>who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.”

“... *thy faith hath made thee whole.*”

**Hebrews 11:6** “But without faith it is impossible to please Him; for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.”

- “**Whole**”: (G-4982). sozo, sode'-zo; “saved” (93x’s), deliver or protect, heal, preserve, be (make) well or whole.

**Ephesians 2:8-9** “<sup>8</sup>For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: <sup>9</sup>not of works, lest any man should boast.”

- Could also read “... *thy faith has saved you...*”

**Mark 5:34** “And He said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole<sup>G4982</sup>; go in peace, and be whole<sup>G5199</sup> of thy plague.”

“Whole” (2<sup>nd</sup>) (G-5199). “hugies”, hoog-ee-ace'; healthy, well (in body), whole; figuratively, used as a metaphor to mean true in doctrine, sound doctrine, teaching that does not deviate from the truth.

- Relationship – based on faith, whole / salvation – peace – healing, sound doctrine.
- She was healed of her physical ailment, but more importantly she was healed of her spiritual condition – separation from God, but now she has a personal relationship with God – she’s a daughter!
- We are made whole and enter into a personal relationship the same way, by faith!

“*Go in peace*” - There are no issues between us, go knowing that you are at peace with God.

**Romans 5:1** “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

V: 49-56 Parenthetical break is over – back to Jairus and his daughter:

V: 49-50 “*While He yet spake*” – interrupting the interruption:

- News arrives that Jairus’ daughter has died.
- What they are saying is that it’s gone beyond any man’s ability to remedy...

**Matthew 19:26** “But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, with men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.”

- Reading into their statement a little bit: they don’t believe that Jesus can do anything at this point, it’s almost like they are trying to draw him back in a sense into the synagogue before he gets into trouble, “come back into the fold”.
- Jesus immediately told Jairus “fear not: believe only,...”

**1 John 4:18** “There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.”

- Our choice; believe the messengers of the world, or the message from heaven.
- Jairus has the testimony of the centurion who's servant was healed and now he's seen the woman with the issue of blood healed – it wasn't just an un-related interruption, it was another validation of the power of God to heal added to Jairus' faith.

“<sup>50b</sup>... *and she shall be made whole.*”

- Shall be, future tense, it isn't done yet, but it soon will be.

V: 51-53 Jesus only allowed Peter, James, and John, and the girls parents to see what was about to take place.

- This was not a spectacle for the crowd to watch.

**Mark 5:38** “And he cometh to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and seeth the tumult, and them that wept and wailed greatly.”

- Besides those who would naturally be grieved over a death in the family it was common for people to hire professional mourners. The greater the lament, the greater the person...
- Someone in the household had probably already hired these mourners, or seizing on the opportunity they initiated it themselves in expectation of payment.
- Jesus declared that she wasn't dead, but that she slept – now to us and to them she was dead, her spirit had left her.

**Ecclesiastes 12:7** “Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.”

**James 2:26** “For as the body without the spirit is dead, ...”

- This image, being asleep, is often used to describe the death of believers. Sleep is a normal experience that we do not fear, and we should not fear death. It is the body that sleeps, not the spirit for the spirit of the believer goes to be with Christ.

**Philippians 1:20-23** <sup>20</sup>According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death. <sup>21</sup>For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup>But if I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labor: yet what I shall choose I wot not. <sup>23</sup>For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better. <sup>24</sup>Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you.”

**2 Corinthians 5:6-8** <sup>6</sup>Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: <sup>7</sup>For we

walk by faith, not by sight: <sup>8</sup>We are confident, I say and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.”

- The mourners laughed at Jesus because they saw death as being final. They failed to realize that Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

**John 11:25-26** <sup>25</sup>Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: <sup>26</sup>and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die. Believest thou this?”

V: 54-56 Jesus called, spoke – “maid arise” – and her spirit came again.

**Mark 5:41-42** <sup>41</sup>And He took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise. <sup>42</sup>And straightway the damsel arose, and walked...”

- “Tali tha cumi” = “little lamb, wake up, I say”
- He took her by the hand – “defiled” by dead body, but not really dead, just like when He touched the bier / stretcher of the widow’s son.
- *Each time Jesus raised someone from the dead, He spoke directly to them.*
- She moved, demonstrated that she was alive.
- 3 raised from the dead:
  1. Jairus’ daughter – **Matthew 9, Luke 8:55** – came to life hungry and moving.
  2. Widow’s son – **Luke 7:15** – came to life speaking.
  3. Lazarus – **John 11:44** – came to life walking & grave clothes loosed.

**2 Corinthians 5:17** “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

- **2 Corinthians 5:17**, new creatures alive in Jesus should be **HUNGRY** for the Word, **SPEAKING** the truth of Jesus, testifying, and **WALKING** with Jesus, no longer bound by death / sin! Wearing a new set of clothes.

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- This chapter starts out describing Jesus teaching, preaching, and healing. We see that Mary Magdalene was delivered of 7 demons and that other women ministered to the practical needs of our Lord.
  - Then the parable of the sower, 4 soils – 4 types of hearts and how they relate to the word of God.

This chapter portrays 3 different miracles with a common denominator:

1. The demoniac couldn't be controlled or restrained by men, left in a living death in the tombs, naked, crying out – out of his mind:

**Mark 5:8** “**For He / Jesus said unto him...**”

- Then we see the “demoniac” sitting at Jesus’ feet, resting, clothed, and in his right mind.

2. The woman with the issue of blood, defiled, unclean, life ebbing out of her.

V: 48 “**And He said unto her, Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace.**”

- She is not only healed of her physical malady, but she is now in a personal relationship with the Lord.

3. Jairus’ daughter – dead already:

**Mark 5:41** “**And He took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her...**”

- Again the word of God brought life to that which was dead.
- What would the answer to our problems be?
- The word of God mixed with faith.