



Your story matters.



More Than *Swine Flu*

Pastor Tom Lundeen
March 21st, 2021

MYRC.CHURCH

"More Than Swine Flu"

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Your ^{REALLY} story matters.

MESSAGE NOTES

What did Jesus have to say to ordinary people like ____?

What did He do in people's lives?

It's no coincidence that right after Jesus calmed the storm (something that was humanly _____, note [Luke 8:22-25](#)) that Jesus stepped ashore and was confronted with a human being that also seemed _____ (note [Luke 8:27-29](#)).

1. Human Beings are in a _____ Spiritual State

A. The Gadarene demoniac—although our external condition may not ever _____ anything close to this...our spiritual state _____ from Jesus has many similarities to this man.

- _____ ([Luke 19:10](#))
- *Alienated from God* ([Colossians 1:21](#))
- _____ ([Romans 5:18](#))
- *Darkness* ([Ephesians 5:8](#))
- _____ *in transgressions* ([Ephesians 2:5](#))
- *Separate from Christ...excluded from citizenship in Israel...foreigners to the covenants of the promise...without _____..without _____...* ([Ephesians 2:12](#))
- *Darkened in...understanding...separated from the _____ of God...hardened hearts...ignorant...lost all sensitivity...* ([Ephesians 4:18-19](#))
- *In the _____ of darkness* ([Colossians 1:13](#))
- *Dead in your sins* ([Colossians 2:13](#))
- *Sinners...God's _____* ([Romans 5:8, 10](#))

All of these terms (and others) paint a picture of spiritual desperation for any person _____ from Jesus.

- B. The _____ of this area (note [Luke 8:30-37](#)) - Human beings apart from a _____ relationship with Jesus are in a desperate spiritual state...and yet can still reject the One who can meet their deepest needs and make life _____.

2. Jesus Dramatically _____ People

Note [Luke 8:27-29, 35b](#)

The _____ of any human being is the greatest miracle God performs (note [Colossians 1:13-14](#); [2 Corinthians 5:17](#)).

3. Jesus Transforms Us to _____

Note [Luke 8:38](#)

Jesus sent him away not as a punishment, but for a _____ (note [Luke 8:39a](#)).

Note [Luke 8:39b](#)

You know what I _____. You see what I _____. _____ made the difference.

Jesus changed our lives, makes us part of His Body, gives us spiritual gifts, and _____ us to serve and minister in His Name (note [Philippians 1:4-6](#); [Ephesians 2:10](#)).

Your story really does matter to *Jesus*:

- Jesus is still _____ people around the world every moment of every day.
- He _____ our lives...
- ...and He transforms us for a _____...
- Who will you invite to *Come and sit with me...Come and watch with me...this Easter weekend?*

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey! Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital or in person).*

[MyRC.link/connect](#) or text **riverside to **94000***

SG

Your group matters.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Icebreaker: It's a rainy spring day and you have the day to just be at home; what will you be doing?

1. We often think of others as being worse off than we are, and spiritual condition is no exception. Take some time to read through the terms and passages laid out in the message notes that reveal our universal condition without Jesus.
2. What response does this list cause in you? Can you relate, do you remember what it felt like, are you still there?
3. The local people had seen what Jesus had accomplished in the demoniac's life, yet they still resisted him. ([Luke 8:30-37](#)) How did this look, or does this currently look, in your own relationship with Jesus?
4. While you may not have been in the same situation as this man, how did you feel when Jesus transformed* you? ([*Colossians 1:13-14](#), [2 Corinthians 5:17](#))
5. "Jesus transforms us to use us." The demoniac was sent to tell those he already knew what Jesus had done for him. How will you accomplish Jesus' purpose of reaching those in your life who don't know Him yet this Easter? ([Ephesians 2:10](#), [Luke 8:38-39](#))

Day One: [1 Corinthians 2](#)

Day Two: [1 Corinthians 3](#)

Day Three: [1 Corinthians 4](#)

Day Four: [1 Corinthians 5](#)

Day Five: [1 Corinthians 6](#)

PERSONAL GUIDE

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Your ^{REALLY} story matters.

MESSAGE NOTES

What did Jesus have to say to ordinary people like us?

What did He do in people's lives?

It's no coincidence that right after Jesus calmed the storm (something that was humanly untamable, note [Luke 8:22-25](#)) that Jesus stepped ashore and was confronted with a human being that also seemed untamable (note [Luke 8:27-29](#)).

1. Human Beings are in a Desperate Spiritual State

- A. The Gadarene demoniac—although our external condition may not ever resemble anything close to this...our spiritual state apart from Jesus has many similarities to this man.
 - Lost ([Luke 19:10](#))
 - Alienated from God ([Colossians 1:21](#))
 - Condemned ([Romans 5:18](#))
 - Darkness ([Ephesians 5:8](#))
 - Dead in transgressions ([Ephesians 2:5](#))
 - *Separate from Christ...excluded from citizenship in Israel...foreigners to the covenants of the promise...without hope...without God...* ([Ephesians 2:12](#))
 - *Darkened in...understanding...separated from the life of God...hardened hearts...ignorant...lost all sensitivity...* ([Ephesians 4:18-19](#))
 - *In the dominion of darkness* ([Colossians 1:13](#))
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 - *Sinners...God's enemies* ([Romans 5:8, 10](#))

All of these terms (and others) paint a picture of spiritual desperation for any person apart from Jesus.

- B. The people of this area (note [Luke 8:30-37](#)) - Human beings apart from a personal relationship with Jesus are in a desperate spiritual state...and yet can still reject the One who can meet their deepest needs and make life worth living.

2. Jesus Dramatically Transforms People

Note [Luke 8:27-29, 35b](#)

The conversion of any human being is the greatest miracle God performs (note [Colossians 1:13-14](#); [2 Corinthians 5:17](#)).

3. Jesus Transforms Us to Use Us

Note [Luke 8:38](#)

Jesus sent him away not as a punishment, but for a purpose (note [Luke 8:39a](#)).

Note [Luke 8:39b](#)

You know what I was. You see what I am. Jesus made the difference.

Jesus changed our lives, makes us part of His Body, gives us spiritual gifts, and equips us to serve and minister in His Name (note [Philippians 1:4-6](#); [Ephesians 2:10](#)).

Your story really does matter to Jesus:

- Jesus is still encountering people around the world every moment of every day.
- He changes our lives...
- ...and He transforms us for a purpose...
- Who will you invite to *Come and sit with me...Come and watch with me...this Easter weekend?*

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SMALL GROUP
guide on the back