

The Junior Observer

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Q & A

How did Jesus and the Apostles get to the territory of the Gerasenes?

What caused the man who lived among the tombs to be unwell?

Read more about it in Mark 5

A Good News Story

Jesus Casts Out Unclean Spirits

Catholic News Service

After preaching to the people, Jesus boarded a boat with His Apostles and crossed the Sea of Galilee to the territory of the Gerasenes.

In this territory, a ragged-looking man lived alone among the tombs. He acted as if he had lost his mind, crying out day and night, and sometimes bruising himself with stones. People tried to put him in chains and shackles, but the man always broke free.

The man saw Jesus and His friends come ashore and rushed up to them.

Jesus immediately knew that the man had an unclean spirit living in him.

“What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God?” the man shouted as he prostrated himself before Jesus. “I adjure you by God, do not torment me!”

Jesus asked the man his name.

“Legion is my name,” the man replied. “There are many of us.”

The man begged Jesus not to drive



Bible Trivia

What miracle did Jesus perform before traveling to the territory of the Gerasenes? (Hint: Mark 4:39-41)

Answer: Calming the storm

the unclean spirits from the territory of the Gerasenes. He looked at the hillside and saw a large herd of swine.

“Send us into the swine. Let us enter them,” the man said.

Jesus let the unclean spirits come out of the man and enter the swine. There

were about 2,000 animals in the herd. When the unclean spirits entered the swine, the animals suddenly became wild and rushed down an embankment and into the sea.

The men who were tending the herd saw what happened and told everyone in town about it. People came to the seashore to see what was going on.

There they saw the man they had known to be unwell. He was sitting calmly with Jesus and the Apostles and was now in his right mind.

When the townspeople heard what had happened, they were afraid. They told Jesus and His friends to leave their territory.

The man begged to leave with them, but Jesus had another plan for him.

“Go home to your family and announce to them all that the Lord in His pity has done for you,” Jesus told him.

So the man told everyone he saw that Jesus drove the unclean spirits from him, and all who heard were amazed.

Puzzle

Unscramble the words below and arrange them to form a quotation from the children’s story.

het toni wnesi su dens

Answer: Send us into the swine.

See the answer to the December Puzzle on page 8.

Bible Accent

In Mark 5:21-43, we learn that Jesus and the Apostles left the territory of the Gerasenes by boat and again crossed the Sea of Galilee.

A throng of people greeted Jesus. One of them was Jairus, an official from the synagogue. He begged Jesus to come home with him to cure his 12-year-old daughter, who was on the verge of death.

“Please, come lay your hands on her that she may get well and live,” he said.

Jesus tried to move through the crowd to Jairus’ house, but the people were pressing in all around him.

Suddenly, Jesus felt power leave Him. A woman in the crowd, who had been afflicted with hemorrhages for 12 years, had touched His cloak and was cured of her illness.

Jesus stopped to talk to her, telling her that her faith had saved her.

By the time Jesus reached Jairus’ house, the girl was dead. Everyone in the household was upset and crying.

“Why this commotion and weeping?” Jesus asked. “The child is not dead but asleep.”

Jesus walked into the girl’s room with her parents and a few of the Apostles.

“Little girl, I say to you, arise!” Jesus commanded.

The girl got up and walked around. Jesus said to feed her and tell no one what he had done.

Those who witnessed the miracle were astounded by what they had seen.

St. Bridget Students Receive Money, Help Others

Fifth-grade students at St. Bridget School in Loves Park were chosen for the Friends of Jesus Project sponsored through the Daughters of St. Paul. The students received money to help others in need. Through education and discussion, the students decided to help the St. Bridget Food Pantry and the Shriner’s Children’s Hospital. They gather to present a check for \$900 to a representative of the Shriners.



(Photo provided)