

the gospel of

MARK

A Life on Mission

DIVINE



Mark 5:1-20

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**Don't miss the possibilities
in life's detours.**

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"Going to the other side..."

Mark 5:1 says that Jesus arrived at the "region of the Gerasenes" the next morning, meaning Jesus and the disciples probably made this trip overnight.



Regions in NT Israel:

We often speak of Galilee, Samaria and Judea, which are west of the Jordan River, but we don't speak much of the Decapolis or Perea.

Decapolis = Mark 5:20

Perea = the word does not appear, but it's referred to as "beyond the Jordan"



The Decapolis

Deca = Ten / Polis = City

Decapolis = "Ten Cities"

Scythopolis, Philadelphia, Raphanae, Gadara, Hippos, Dios, Pella, Gerasa, Canatha, and Damascus

An independent, largely Gentile region that answered directly to Rome. They even minted their own money.



“Don't send us to the Abyss!”

Luke 8:31 says the demons begged Jesus repeatedly not to send them to the Abyss.

Tartarus = 2 Peter 2:4
(1 Peter 3:19-20; Jude 6)



Detours can lead you to:

1. The presence of unexpected suffering.

Mark 5:1-5

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Detours can lead you to:

1. The presence of unexpected suffering.

Mark 5:1-5

2. A demonstration of divine power.

Mark 5:6-17

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Detours can lead you to:

1. The presence of unexpected suffering.

Mark 5:1-5

2. A demonstration of divine power.

Mark 5:6-17

3. An opportunity for unlikely witnessing.

Mark 5:18-20

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Your Challenge:

Identify at least one unexpected blessing in every detour.

Instead of asking, "God, what are you doing with this?", start saying, "God, I trust You're up to something with this."

Don't miss the possibilities in life's detours!

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