

OUTLINE & QUESTIONS

BANISHING DEMONS

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MARK 1:21-28

Introduction

1. The _____ of Demons
2. The Nature of _____
 - V _____
 - D _____
 - S _____
3. The _____ of Jesus
 - _____ the control
 - _____ the demons
 - _____ the word
 - _____ the bolt

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & GROUPS

1. Icebreaker: If you were to make New Year's resolutions for the care of your body, what might they be? If you were to make New Year's resolutions for the care of your soul, what might they be?
2. Why is a sermon on "Banishing Demons" included in a Soul Care series? What inaccurate views about demons have you had in the past, and what are the dangers of those wrong views?
3. Read Mark 1:21-24. Why did the demon call Jesus by name? Why is possessed not a helpful expression to describe demonic activity? What does it mean to be demonized? What do you learn about Satan and demons from I Peter 5:8 and Ephesians 6:11-13?
4. What does Ephesians 2:1-3 tell us about our lives before we surrendered them to Christ? What happens to us when we surrender to Christ, according to Colossians 3:13, 14? How might the truths in these two passages encourage you in your daily battle with demons?
5. Why would idolatry open the door to demonic activity in our lives? Why would occultism? Why would unforgiveness (see Ephesians 4:26, 27)? Why would habitual sins (see I John 3:8, 9)? Which of these 4 doorways have you left open in the past? Explain.
6. Why are movies like the Exorcist not helpful in understanding demonization? What could be signs of demonic activity in a person's life? Have you ever seen any of those signs in your life? Describe.
7. Read Mark 1:25-28. What struck the synagogue crowd about Jesus' encounter with the demonized man? What is Jesus' current relationship with demons, according to Colossians 2:15? If we are "in Christ" (a frequent New Testament depiction of those who've surrendered to Jesus), how does that impact our engagement with demons?
8. What are the 3 major adversaries that a Christ follower faces? Describe what is meant by each. How does the devil work in partnership with the first two (i.e. give an example of what that might look like)?
9. Read Ephesians 6:11. What does the word schemes tell you about Satan and demons? If you were a demon, how might you attack you (i.e. in what ways are you vulnerable)?
10. How did Jesus deliver the demonized man in Mark 1:25? Read James 4:7. How might our words be part of our resistance plan? What does Proverbs 18:21 tell us about our words (i.e. tongue), and how might this apply to our engagement with demons? What should we say to them?
11. Read Matthew 12:43-45. What is Jesus' implied warning in these verses? What are some practical ways in which a person might secure the bolt of a doorway that's recently been closed to demons? What is a step that you need to take in this regard?
12. What is the most helpful takeaway from this sermon for your life?