

Mark: The Mysterious Messiah

Week 10: Mark 5:14-34

Introductory Exercise.

How do people react when they see that “Legion” is gone? What do they ask of Jesus at that point? How is Jesus's response to the man who once had “Legion” different from the ways he has treated other healed people in this book? Why do you think his response differs?

When Jesus returns to “the other side,” where does that put him, and what else in the text after his crossing indicates that location? What is most surprising about the person who now asks Jesus for help? How does Jesus respond, and what does that say about the mission of Jesus?

What happens on the way to the synagogue official's daughter? What about this encounter strikes you as strange, and what might have stricken a first-century listener as strange? What does this involuntary act of healing say about the sort of mission that Jesus is on?

What is the frustration of the twelve when Jesus stops to ask what happened? How does the healed woman approach Jesus when he asks the question? Looking at this story alongside Mark 2:5 and 4:40, what is the book as a whole saying about faith/faithfulness?

When the encounter with the unclean woman is over, what remains unresolved in the immediate past of the narrative? Looking ahead to next week's reading, what will Jesus have to deal with?