

July 12, 2020

La Jolla Christian Fellowship

**Sparking The Flames Of Revival
Episode 7: Deliverance.**

Pastor Adam Stadtmiller

Matthew 8:28-34

When he arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him. They were so violent that no one could pass that way.²⁹ “What do you want with us, Son of God?” they shouted. “Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?”³⁰ Some distance from them a large herd of pigs was feeding.³¹ The demons begged Jesus, “If you drive us out, send us into the herd of pigs.”³² He said to them, “Go!” So they came out and went into the pigs, and the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and died in the water.³³ Those tending the pigs ran off, went into the town and reported all this, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men.³⁴ Then the whole town went out to meet Jesus. And when they saw him, they pleaded with him to leave their region.

Deliverance: Deliverance is ultimately a battle for territory. Deliverance sets us free from spiritual bondages and barriers that hold us back from walking in the victory that Jesus won on the cross for us at Calvary.

Matthew 8 is a chapter dedicated to Jesus’ authority and power over nature, disease, death and the demonic. (Leper, Centurion’s servant, Peter’s Mother-in-Law, Storms, 2 Demon-possessed men)

- **Power follows the preaching of the Word.** Jesus had just finished the sermon on the mount.

Getting Free: Removing blockages, Ending Disobedience and Reclaiming Territory

Galatians 5:1 *It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.*

Blockages: Small blockages in our life often lead to greater consequence.

Vs. 28 *When he arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him. **They were so violent that no one could pass that way.***

- This blockage was a symbol of a deeper agreement in the city as a whole.

Disobedience: The presence of a swine herd showed that this city was living in disobedience to the law of God.

- **Vs. 30** *Some distance from them a large herd of pigs was feeding.*

Territory: Deliverance is ultimately about territory.

Vs. 31 *The demons begged Jesus, "If you drive us out, send us into the herd of pigs."*

- **Matthew 4:17** *From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."*
 - **Matt 12:43-44** *"When an evil spirit leaves a person, it goes into the desert, seeking rest but finding none. "Then it says, 'I will return to the person I came from.'"*

Small Group Discussion Questions

1. These two men were creating a blockage into the town and affecting the wellbeing of an entire city. How can small blockages in our lives affect larger areas of our wellbeing?
2. No one could contain these men, yet they came and fell at Jesus feet begging? What would bring this shift and is it an authority modern believers can also experience?
3. This city did not want Jesus or the freedom he offered and sent him away? Why would they do that and is it possible that we often do the same thing?
4. Spiritual battle is a battle for territory. Jesus is bringing a new kingdom to supplant the current system. What are some areas or territories that we often surrender to the enemy?
5. Is there territory that you have surrendered and if so, how would you go about reclaiming it?