

No Matter What, No Matter Where – Week 4
Baptism – Jim Burgen
June 6, 2021

Group Creed

We come together as a Group with the goal of Spiritual Formation--encouraging one another to become the same kind of person that Jesus is, so that we can live out every part of our lives inside of His Kingdom.

// **Bible References**

Mark 5:1-15,18-20

// **Message Summary**

This week Jim finishes our series “No Matter What, No Matter Where” by looking at more stories. Jim reviews a story in Mark 5 with the demon-filled man, Legion 600, and the story of the pigs who were possessed by the legion of demons. Jim talks us through times when people are desperate for change because they know if something doesn’t change, they might lose everything. A video was shown of “Bud’s Story,” which Jim unpacks, and then shares different stories of darkness and demons and what good can come from “light” shining on those situations. Another video is shown of “Allen’s story...” a man from New York who came to Flatirons to be baptized on Easter weekend. Ultimately Jim wants to point out the significance of stories, and that when someone is vulnerable in sharing their story, sometimes Jesus works in the recipient’s life and changes it forever.

// Community Questions

1. Share with the group what you did for Memorial Day weekend.
2. The story that Jim shared this week from Mark 5, is interesting, to say the least. What was your initial thought or reaction to hearing the whole story?

// Discussion Questions

1. Read Mark 5 as a group, then everyone takes a turn and share what stood out to them the most about the story? Is there any part of this story you can relate to?
2. The demon possessed man bowed and came to Jesus in fear/desperation. Have you ever had a moment where you came to Jesus in fear/desperation and were surprised by His response to you? Share with the group your experience.
3. Jim shared a moment in his life where Jesus had answered prayers about his wife Robin, but in answering those prayers it revealed areas in Jim's life that needed to change. Where have you seen this in your own life and what did God reveal to you?
4. Being real with people in sharing your story is not often something people are willing to do. Jim shares that people are surprised by how real he is surrounding his and Robin's journey with her bipolar disorder. Are you willing to step into vulnerability and share your story? If so, have one member share their story with the group this week.

// Challenge

Jim gave two examples of change that can happen in our life that ultimately disrupts it.

1. I don't want things to change, and I am not willing to change, so please go away from that part of my life and leave me alone.
2. Sometimes when Jesus changes someone else, their change becomes obtrusive and disruptive to me. Which of these examples most resonates with you and what are some ways this week you can work to stop pushing change away, but to embrace what God is trying to do in your life?