What Does Your Witness Say?

Study Outline | Mark 5:1–20 and John 4:7–30

From a message preached by Julie Hattabaugh at GoChurch Beirut

Memory Verse

> And He did not let him, but He said to him, “Go home to your people and report to them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He had mercy on you.”
>
> **Mark 5:19 · NASB 1995**

Opening Prayer

Father, thank You for Your Word. Holy Spirit, You are our Teacher. Open our hearts, and show each of us what our witness says. In the name of Jesus, amen.

I. Jesus Commands Every Believer to Go

A. The command is direct.

> And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.”
>
> **Mark 16:15 · NASB 1995**

1. “He” is Jesus, and “Go” is a command.
2. To preach is to proclaim the good news.

B. The command comes with a promise.

> “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”
>
> **Matthew 28:19–20 · NASB 1995**

1. The assignment is large: all the nations.
2. Jesus goes with you.
    a. You do not go alone.
    b. You do not go in your own strength.

> “but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”
>
> **Acts 1:8 · NASB 1995**

C. The command shows the heart of God.

> “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”
> **Luke 19:10 · NASB 1995**

1. The Father wants all of His children to come home.
2. God put gifts in you that the world needs.

Application Questions

1. Where has God placed you that only He could place you?
2. What gift has God put in you that the church and the world need?

Transition: Jesus did not only give the command. He showed what it looks like in one changed life.

II. One Encounter With Jesus Changes a Life

A. The man before he met Jesus.

> When He got out of the boat, immediately a man from the tombs with an unclean spirit met Him, and he had his dwelling among the tombs. And no one was able to bind him anymore, even with a chain; because he had often been bound with shackles and chains, and the chains had been torn apart by him and the shackles broken in pieces, and no one was strong enough to subdue him. Constantly, night and day, he was screaming among the tombs and in the mountains, and gashing himself with stones.
> **Mark 5:2–5 · NASB 1995**

1. He lived among the tombs.
2. No one could help him.
    a. Chains could not hold him.
    b. He hurt himself night and day.

B. The man after he met Jesus.

> They came to Jesus and observed the man who had been demon-possessed sitting down, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the “legion”; and they became frightened.
> **Mark 5:15 · NASB 1995**

1. He sat down.
2. He wore clothes.
3. He was in his right mind.

C. The assignment Jesus gave him.

> As He was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed was imploring Him that he might accompany Him. And He did not let him, but He said to him, “Go home to your people and report to them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He had mercy on you.” And he went away and began to proclaim in Decapolis what great things Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed.
>
> **Mark 5:18–20 · NASB 1995**

1. Jesus did not let him come in the boat.
2. Jesus sent him home.
    a. Go to your people.
    b. Report what great things the Lord has done for you.
    c. Tell how He had mercy on you.
3. Everyone who heard him was amazed.

Application Questions

1. What did your life look like before you met Jesus?
2. Who knew you then, and what do they see now?

Transition: Mark shows a man. John shows a woman. The pattern is the same.

III. A Changed Life Draws People to Jesus

A. Jesus revealed Himself to her.

> The woman said to Him, “I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ); when that One comes, He will declare all things to us.” Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am He.”
>
> **John 4:25–26 · NASB 1995**

1. She had had five husbands, and the man she had was not her husband (John 4:18).
2. Jesus did not avoid her. He told her who He is.

B. She told people what happened to her.

> So the woman left her waterpot, and went into the city and said to the men, “Come, see a man who told me all the things that I have done; this is not the Christ, is it?” They went out of the city, and were coming to Him.
>
> **John 4:28–30 · NASB 1995**

1. She left her waterpot.
2. She gave an invitation: “Come, see.”
3. The people came to Jesus.

C. Her word produced faith.

> From that city many of the Samaritans believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, “He told me all the things that I have done.”
> **John 4:39 · NASB 1995**

Application Questions

1. What keeps you from telling people what Jesus has done for you?
2. Who needs to hear your invitation to “come, see”?

Transition: Your first field is the same as theirs. It is home.

IV. Your Witness Starts at Home and Grows as You Stay Close

A. Your family watches your life.

1. Your actions speak before your words.
    a. Pastor Julie’s father watched her life for more than ten years.
    b. He saw love take the place of her temper.
    c. He asked, “What do I have to do to get baptized?”
2. Scripture gives the answer when they ask.

> that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.
> **Romans 10:9–10 · NASB 1995**

B. The new life in you is real.

> Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.
> **2 Corinthians 5:17 · NASB 1995**

C. Stay close to God.

1. Draw near to Him. God never moves.

> Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.
> **James 4:8 · NASB 1995**

2. Put the Word in, and the Holy Spirit will bring it back to you.

> “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.”
>
> **John 14:26 · NASB 1995**

3. Pray every day: less of me and more of You.

> “He must increase, but I must decrease.”
>
> **John 3:30 · NASB 1995**

Application Questions

1. Who in your home or family watches your life every day?
2. What daily habit will keep you close to God this week?
3. Who is the Holy Spirit leading you to tell about Jesus this week?

Closing Prayer

Father, thank You for what You have done in my life. Give me an opportunity this week to be a witness. Holy Spirit, give me the words to speak. I will go home to my people, and I will tell them what great things the Lord has done for me. In the name of Jesus, amen.

References

Holy Bible: New American Standard Bible. (1995). La Habra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.