

Date: August 30, 2020

Lesson 9: "GREAT MERCY"

Focal Passage: Mark 5: 1-20

Background Passage: Matthew 5:1-20

Purpose Statement: "To learn to listen to Jesus' words of grace and hope in our dying"

Key Verse: "Go home to your own people", Jesus said, "and tell them what the Lord has done for you and how he has shown you mercy" – Mark 5:19

Questions to ponder:

- 1. What concerns you most about the needs of the poor and marginalized in society?**
- 2. When have you felt that God delivered you out of something?**
- 3. How grateful are you for God's blessings in your life?**

Conclusion:

Jesus' healing stories always show us the hands-on approach of God's love. It is in narratives like this one that we see Jesus' human side sympathizing and empathizing with our pain and sorrow. Jesus is not afraid to confront our hurt. The Lord sees our torment and calls it out by name. Jesus looks at the broken heart and commands peace during the storm.

Use this coming week as an opportunity to consciously reflect on God's healing presence in your life. Look back on those positive things that have happened in your life that clearly were not brought about

by human effort. Be grateful for a God who not only sees but speaks healing and wholeness to our brokenness.

Prayer:

Healing God, thank you for the love that sees our hurts and speaks wholeness to our brokenness. May we live so that others might know the wonders of your love; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Reference:

Adult Bible Studies, Community Summer 2020, pp 128-136