

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## MIRACLES OVER EVIL SPIRITS

*“And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues.” (Mark 16:17)*

### Objectives

<i>Knowledge of God’s Will</i>	Jesus Christ has authority over evil spirits.
<i>Knowledge of God</i>	God is almighty and ruler of all.
<i>Good Work</i>	Identify our chains and bring them to Jesus; have the desire and conviction to be free.

### A. Jesus Has Authority over Evil Spirits

While on earth, Jesus Christ established His authority as God through the miracles He performed. This authority was not only over the physical, but also the spiritual. Whenever Jesus cast out evil spirits, He was proving His status as God Himself.

### B. The Demon-Possessed Man at Gadarenes (Mk 5:1–20)

**Problem:** The evil spirits within this man had driven him to the wilderness, isolation, and self-injury despite everything the people tried to do to contain him. The man was beyond human help. But this all changed when Jesus came; the evil spirits knew that they could not disobey His authority.

**Miracle:** The pig herders and the townspeople begged Jesus to leave. They feared what they did not understand and were blind to Jesus Christ’s identity as the Savior. In sharp contrast, the man who had been healed wanted to follow Jesus despite now being able to return to his family.

### C. The Demon-Possessed Boy (Mk 9:17–29)

**Problem:** The possessed boy suffered much physical suffering under the spirit’s control. His father suffered deeply as well from seeing his son in pain yet being utterly unable to do anything for him.

**Miracle:** The spirit knew Jesus’ identity and was abjectly afraid of Him; it knew it could not resist His command. But Jesus first addressed the father’s lack of faith. At his tearful response – “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!” – Jesus commanded the spirit to leave the boy, once again demonstrating His authority and power.

### Life Application: Finding True Freedom

We are constantly engaged in a spiritual war and are often controlled by things that pull us away from God: addictions, guilt, negative emotions, and many other things that can bind us internally. To overcome these and find true freedom in Christ, we must therefore:

- 1. Identify our chains and bring them to Jesus:** To be free, we must first identify what is binding us. Some chains are easily identifiable, and others are hidden. We must dig deep and look into our hearts to identify them.
- 2. Have the desire and conviction to be free:** We cannot stop at identifying. It is important to determine to break free from our chains and resolve to keep ourselves free.
- 3. Bring our chains to Jesus Christ:** We cannot forget that Jesus Christ is the source of our transformative power. Just as He had the authority to drive out evil spirits, He can also free a contrite heart.

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## Lesson 11 Homework Assignment

### Miracles over Evil Spirits

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse (Mark 16:17):

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1. What does the memory verse tell us about the believers of God?
2. What problem did the evil spirits cause for those who were possessed?
3. What were the two responses to Jesus Christ casting out the evil spirits from the man at Gadarenes?
4. Although not possessed by evil spirits, what are we in danger of being controlled by? What are steps to overcoming these chains?
5. Name some “chains” either you or people you know have been bound by, past or present.
6. Do you have any personal chains? What are some steps you will take to overcome them?