

DATE: October 8, 2023

TITLE: The God Who Pursues

SCRIPTURE: Mark 5:1-20

SPEAKER: Ben Sepulveda

FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

OPENING PRAYER

ICE BREAKER: Which Kwik Trip do you go to in town? North (Store 1040) or South (Store 337) or Both? What is the first glorious Kwik Trip item you will purchase when you visit?

THINK BACK: Referring back to this week's sermon... What is the BIG IDEA of the Scripture AS IT WAS TAUGHT THIS WEEK? Was there anything that left you with questions?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Mark 5:1-20

1. Which of the four Gospels is your favorite (if you have a favorite)? Why is it important that we study the Gospels? Why is it a blessing that we have them?
2. Read Mark 1:1. Imagine you are a person living in the world shortly after Jesus resurrected, hearing Mark being read to you for the first time. What do you think you would make of Mark 1:1? Why do you think that verse would be so important to listeners?
3. Read Mark 4:35. Then read Mark 5:1-20. Why is it significant that Jesus tells his disciples to get in the boat and leave for the other side? How do you think they would have reacted? What does Jesus' command to them tell you about who He is?
4. Read Ephesians 2:1-9. Our text tells us that Jesus is a God who pursues His people, even the one, with a plan. If a few are willing, share with the group how you came to hear the gospel and know the Lord. What does it mean (to all of us) that Jesus pursued us and called us out of death and into life?
5. Read Mark 5:19-20. Jesus is a God who saves us for a purpose (that He determines). How do you see that in the text we read today? How do you see that playing out in your lives now? How can you surrender your will to His to obey where He is calling you?

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Mark 1:1
- Mark 4:35
- Mark 5:1-20
- Ephesian 1:4
- Ephesians 2:1-9
- James 2:19
- 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

APPLICATION

Think about what most caught your attention in the text or discussion. Why is God catching your attention with this at this point in your life? What does God want you to know or do? What's one thing from this text that you could say to an unbeliever about who God is?

PRAYER

Ask people for specific prayer requests. Pray for needs and for applications of the text. Ask for volunteers who would like to pray for those people and requests.

SHEPHERDING

Check the roster and see who is not there. Does the group know why someone is not there? Are there needs that can be met by the group? Specific prayer requests? Ask for someone to reach out and say, "We missed you."

REMINDERS

Small Group Checklist

- Ask about ideas to serve in some way together. Serve 1x every six weeks or so.
- Encourage people to invite friends or neighbors to your group!! One way to reach 'out' together is to welcome people 'in.'
- Discuss childcare, if needed.
- Talk about any upcoming group meals or activities.

Check the bulletin, monthly newsletter and events page on the website for ways that you can get plugged in, as well as events here at FCC. Here are a couple of those things:

- Mark your calendars for our next Prayer & Worship Night which will be held on Sunday, October 22nd at 6PM here at FCC.
- Our Baptism & Covenant Membership Orientations are coming up and are on the events tab of the website with open registrations. If you are interested in participating in either of them, please register online!
- Due to low registrations, our Ladies Day event has been cancelled.
- PLEASE donate a NEW pillow to our STUFF THE TRAILER event this month!