



Mark My Words Week 5 Discussion Guide **“Jesus Believes You Matter”**

Icebreaker question: Share with your circle what you have enjoyed most about the Mark sermon series, study, and discussions.

Key Scripture: Mark 5:1-13

1. Read the passage together and share any study notes found in your Bibles. What do you think of Jesus' ministry plan, to leave large groups of people to visit and heal one person...across a lake in a raging storm? Talk together about how God's plan for Messiah was so different than the Jewish people's expectations.
2. This story is about a demon possessed man being released from his torment. While we may not be “demon possessed”, we all have our “demons” or struggles. We may not desire to share some of those very intimate details in our circle today, but talk together about what does “freedom from struggles” have to do with Jesus' mission of salvation?
3. The Lord God knows our **name**, (Isaiah 43:1 *“But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine”*), the **hairs on our heads** are known (Luke 12:7 *“Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows”*) and knows our very **thoughts**, (Psalm 139:1 *“O Lord, you have searched me and know me”*). Can you believe that the God of the universe KNOWS you? Cares about you? How have you experienced God's care in your life? Have there been times when you felt like God didn't see you at all? Share with your group as you are willing.
4. The last point of the message declares, “You are more than your “mess” and “you may have a ‘mess to missionary’ story.” Think about and share where you believe your circle of influence is right now and how God is using your story to encourage others. Work-friends-family?

Prayer Time: Pray for any specific requests in your circle. Pray that God will continue to open your eyes to the people in your “missionary field” and how you can be Jesus' presence to them.

This Week: Continue to set aside intentional time for Bible reading and reflection. Be sure to include a time of silence for “listening” and reflection.

FOR ADDITIONAL READING AND STUDY: Check out the Bible reading plan here:
cornerstonemi.org/mark