

MARK 5:18-20

KINGDOM SIGNAGE

¹⁸ As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. ¹⁹ Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." ²⁰ So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.

The faith of the Christian is to be lived out in the world. Specifically, our faith is to be manifested before those closest to us for they are in the best position to recognize the change that Jesus has made in our lives. The greatest testimony to God's power working in the life of a married man is the comment by his wife and children that his faith has made him a better husband and father. Our changed lives are to be posted as signs of God's power in the world in which we live; among our family, friends and neighbors.

Every retailer knows that signs work most efficiently, as far as attracting customers, the further they are from the store. Every year, a local church has a food festival. Although they have signs posted on their church property to attract those who happen to drive by, they have distributed signs throughout the area directing people who don't even know their church exists to the festival. We, as Christians, should see ourselves as signs that point others to Jesus. All too often we want to be the signs on the church property on Sunday morning. Just maybe someone who drives by will see all of us and want to come to our worship service. However, that is not our call. We, like the healed demoniac, are sent by Jesus out into the world in which we live. We are to be those signs that are posted in the "neighborhoods" far from the church that point people who would never "drive by" to Jesus.

Jesus, make me an instrument of your truth and of your power to redeem the world. Keep me from hiding the light of your Gospel in the basket of my private life or my church community. Help me to hold your light high in the world in which I live, and work and play. Amen.