



Start at Home

By Shannon Ford on January 13, 2021

READING: Luke 8

There are five prayer requests in the cemetery of the demoniac: three from the demons (vv. 28, 31, 32), one from the residents (vs. 37), and one from the healed demoniac (vs. 38). The demons received what they asked for and so did the residents. However, the healed demoniac did not, and his request was a good one. All he wanted to do was travel with Jesus, but Jesus said no. Why didn't Jesus grant his request and allow him to be one of His personal followers?

First, Jesus did not exhibit new believers like entertainers at a sideshow. Second, Jesus had a reason to send the man home. The people there knew him best and his testimony would have greater impact. His family could easily see and admit that he was a different man.

Jesus commissioned the healed demoniac to carry the good news home and he obeyed. One of our first responsibilities after trusting Christ is to carry the good news home. Our ministry should always start at home. We need to help our families feed on God's truth and grow in grace. Every new believer needs the fellowship of others, including our families, to explain and demonstrate the basics of the Christian life. How is your ministry going with your family? What can you do to have a more effective ministry with each of your family members?

PRAYER: "Father, with so many things in the world to distract us and our families, help us to focus on and work on our family ministries to build stronger families for Your Kingdom."

TOMORROW'S READING: Luke 9

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