Stronger Discussion Questions

3.4.18

Leader Prep Section

Take time before your small group meeting to prepare by reading through the questions and scripture passage so that you can select 4-5 questions that are best suited to your group.

Try to work through at least one question from each of the sections - Hook, Book, Look, Took in order to move from observation to application.

When possible spend time in prayer for each member of your group.

Hook - Ice breaker type questions to help make the transition into the study time.

- 1. Who is the physically strongest person you have ever seen?
- 2. Who is the person with the most inner strength that you have ever known?

Read Mark 5:1 - 20

Questions

Book - These questions are designed to get you into the text itself.

- 1. What does Mark tell us about the man who ran up to Jesus?
- 2. List the specific descriptions that Mark gives us about this man. Why do you think Mark highlight these words and phrases? What impression did he want to give his readers?
- 3. How does Jesus deal with this man?
- 4. For Jews familiar with the Hebrew scriptures, what might this encounter evoke? (For example, in the Exodus YHWH drowned the enemies of his people in the sea.)
- 5. What was the local populations reaction to Jesus? What do you make of the fact that the disciples were afraid of Jesus in the boat and now the locals are afraid of Jesus?
- 6. What surprises you about Jesus' response to the man who asked to follow after Jesus?

Look - These questions will take you on a deeper look at what the passage means for us today.

- 1. Have you ever felt afraid of Jesus? If so, when?
- 2. Do you tend to think of Jesus as very strong or meek and mild? How do the gospels present a vision of Jesus that doesn't fit into our stereotypes?
- 3. When has been a time that you have seen Jesus set someone free from something in a powerful way?
- 4. When has been a time Jesus acted with power on your behalf in your life?

Took - These questions are focused on applying the big idea from the text to our lives.

- 1. What is the good news for you from the this story?
- 2. Where do you find yourself personally challenged by this story?
- 3. What does this story make you want to pray this week?
- 4. Is there a place in your life that you need Jesus to set you free?
- 5. Has Jesus given you a story that he wants you to share? Where might he be inviting you to share it?

Pray

Reminder: The Good News is Jesus is stronger. He is stronger than temptation, he is stronger than sin, and he is stronger than death. Nothing stands between Jesus and his Father! Jesus has made a way for that to be true for us as well.