

Life Group Notes

Sunday 13th Nov 2022

Speaker: Liz Green

Title: BLESS: Story

Passage: Mark 5:1-20

Behaviour communicates lots but it isn't able to communicate everything. Loving our neighbours through serving them is beautiful and demonstrates Christ, but at some point we need to tell them about Jesus.

Rom 10:14 'But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?'

Telling people what God has done IS necessary if we are to truly BLESS our friends and neighbours.

Read Mark 5: 1-20

This man's life is radically changed by Jesus and it's understandable why he therefore wants to stay with him but Jesus says Go.

'Go home to your family and tell what the Lord has done for you'.

- **Go home to your family.** God is in the business of transforming lives and commissioning his people to go and be his ambassadors. In the great commission, Jesus commissioned disciples to go into all the earth. This man is commissioned to go home and tell those in his world.
- **Tell.** This man was to tell, use words, communicate. Telling requires us to take the next step, not just relying on actions but communicating with words. Actions can sometimes be misread as 'she's such a 'good' person'.
- **Everything the Lord has done.** Jesus wanted to be the centre, the hero of this man's story. He had delivered and changed him, he wanted the glory. Let's be careful how we tell our stories, ensuring that we make Jesus the hero!
- **For you.** Jesus simply instructs the man to tell of what God has done for him, not anyone else. He is to tell his story, of how God has changed him. Likewise, we each have a story to tell and we aren't invited to tell anyone else's story but ours.

Janine made some great points about lessons she has learnt about sharing her faith;

- We are not alone as we look to share our stories with others. The Holy Spirit is able to guide, prompt and empower us
- When sharing your story think 3 P's. **Point** to Jesus, Use **plain** language, Make it **personal**
- Sharing your experience of Jesus is not imposing your faith but "one beggar telling another beggar where he found bread"
- People really do not know the good news about Jesus.
- Do your friends/family/co-workers know how important he is? How important he is to us?
- Let's push through discomfort/awkwardness of sharing Jesus with others. It may be their only opportunity to hear about him.

Questions:

1. Share a time when you have been able to talk about your story with someone. How did it go?
2. What experience/situation in your life could you share with someone that makes Jesus the hero?
3. Where do you need to 'go' to, to share your story? (ie. What part of your world)
4. Pray for courage and boldness to share your story and ask God for opportunity.