

LIFE OF CHRIST
from the gospel of
Luke

Lesson 23

Jesus Has Power
Over Evil

Luke 8:26-39;
9:37-42

Life of Christ

Jesus Has Power Over Evil

Luke 8:26-39; 9:37-42

Younger Verse

Do not let evil defeat you.

Romans 12:21

Older Verse

Do not let evil defeat you, but defeat evil by doing good. Romans 12:21

Bible Story



*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Do you think there is anything that God cannot do? While Jesus was here on earth, He proved that He has power over everything. He raised people from the dead, calmed storms, healed people who were sick, and today, we will see that He has power over evil.

Last week, we saw that Jesus and His disciples went on a boat trip. That is when the storm came and Jesus calmed the storm. They finally made it to where Jesus had wanted to go—a place called Gerasenes. The people who lived there were Gentiles (people who were not Jews). The disciples probably wondered what they were doing there. But it didn't take long before they found out.

As Jesus was getting out of the boat, a man came over to meet him. This man was very different. He had demons inside of him. The man lived alone in a graveyard. He did not have clothes to wear. People had tried to put the man in chains, but he only broke them and ran away.

When the man saw Jesus, he began to scream and he fell to the ground. He shouted, "Why are you bothering me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Please, I beg you, do not bother me!"

How did the man know who Jesus was? It was actually the demons inside of the man. They recognized Jesus immediately. And they knew that Jesus had power over them.

Jesus asked the man what his name was. The man said his name was Legion, because there were many demons in him. A legion is like a large group. The demons continued to beg Jesus not to send them out of the man. Then they asked Jesus to send them into a herd of pigs nearby.

Jesus commanded the demons to leave the man and go into the herd of pigs. After that, the pigs ran down a hill and jumped off the cliff into the water, where they drowned. When the men watching the pigs saw what happened, they ran and told everyone what had happened. Many peo-

Lesson Goals

Understand that Jesus has power over evil

Learn that Jesus commanded evil spirits to leave a man

Learn that Jesus sent an evil spirit out of a boy

ple gathered to see the man Jesus had healed. He was now sitting calmly beside Jesus.

The people there did not understand who Jesus was, so they were afraid of him. They asked Jesus to leave the area. But the man Jesus healed wanted to go with Him. Jesus told the man to stay there and spread the Good News of what God had done for him. And the man obeyed Jesus.

On another occasion, a man came to Jesus with his son. The boy had a demon in him that made him do things to hurt himself. The man said he had asked Jesus' disciples to help, but they couldn't. The boy fell to the ground and started shaking. Jesus commanded the evil spirit to leave the boy, and immediately, the boy was fine. And all the people who saw what had happened were amazed at Jesus' power.

Jesus loves all people and does not want them to have evil in them. He has the power to forgive us of all of our sins, and He can give us a new heart and life. He can help us defeat the evil in our lives, like bad habits or things that seem to have control over us. When Jesus comes into our life, He will help us to follow His ways. He will give us strength to resist temptation. Let's give our heart and life to the only One who can save us!

Review Questions

1. What was wrong with the man who lived in the graveyard? (He had many evil spirits inside of him.)
2. What did the man do when he saw Jesus? (He screamed and shouted for Jesus not to bother him.)
3. Where did Jesus send the demons? (Into a herd of pigs nearby.)
4. What did the man want Jesus to do for his son? (Remove the evil spirit from him.)
5. Was Jesus able to help the boy? (Yes—he commanded the evil spirit to leave the boy.)

Life Application

This may seem like a scary story, but we don't have to be afraid. Jesus has more power than Satan. When we feel afraid, Jesus is there with us. He can help us to defeat Satan. Satan wants to tempt us to do bad things. He doesn't want us to follow God. We have to ask Jesus to help us when we feel like doing something sinful. He will give us the power we need to stay strong and not sin.

Planning for Lesson 24
Jairus' Daughter and the Sick Woman
Luke 8:40-56

Preschool Lesson for Jesus Has Power Over Evil

Teachers: Be sensitive to smaller children who might be afraid. Before telling the story, explain that Jesus is stronger than anything—even evil.

Do you think there is anything that God cannot do? While Jesus was here on earth, He proved that He has power over everything. He raised people from the dead, calmed storms, healed people who were sick, and today, we will see that He has power over evil.

Last week, we saw that Jesus and His disciples went on a boat trip. That is when the storm came and Jesus calmed the storm. They finally made it to where Jesus had wanted to go—a place called Gerasenes. The people who lived there were Gentiles (people who were not Jews). The disciples probably wondered what they were doing there. But it didn't take long before they found out.

As Jesus was getting out of the boat, a man came over to meet him. This man was very different. The man lived alone in a graveyard. He did not have clothes to wear. People had tried to put the man in chains, but he only broke them and ran away. He had evil spirits in him.

When the man saw Jesus, he began to scream and he fell to the ground. He shouted, "Why are you bothering me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Please, I beg you, do not bother me!"

Jesus commanded the demons to leave the man and go into a herd of pigs. After that, the pigs ran down a hill and jumped off a cliff into the water. When the men watching the pigs saw what happened, they ran and told everyone what had happened. Many people gathered to see the man Jesus had healed. He was now sitting calmly beside Jesus.

The people there did not understand who Jesus was, so they were afraid of him. They asked Jesus to leave the area. But the man Jesus healed wanted to go with Him. Jesus told the man to stay there and spread the Good News of what God had done for him. And the man obeyed Jesus.

Later, another man came to Jesus with his son. The boy had an evil spirit in him that made him do things to hurt himself. The boy fell to the ground and started shaking. Jesus commanded the evil spirit to leave the boy, and immediately, the boy was fine. And all the people who saw what had happened were amazed at Jesus' power.

Jesus loves all people and does not want them to have evil in them. He has the power to forgive us of all of our sins, and He can give us a new heart and life. He can help us defeat the evil in our lives, like bad habits or things that seem to have control over us. When Jesus comes into our life, He will help us to follow His ways. He will give us strength to resist temptation. Let's give our heart and life to the only One who can save us!



**Hands-on Activities
for
Jesus Has Power Over Evil**

Create a picture of what this man looked like before he met Jesus. Then make a picture of what he looked like after he met Jesus. Use macaroni, beans, string or other objects to make it interesting.

Talk about some things that change. Examples may include forms of water, caterpillar to a butterfly, tadpole to a frog, seed to a plant, etc. Let your students come up with some ideas. Share how Jesus has changed your life and how glad you are for Him.

If you know the Veggie Tales song, “God is Bigger than the Boogie Man,” sing it with the kids. Remind them that God is bigger and stronger than **ANYTHING!**

Bring pictures of different superheroes (Superman, Batman, Spiderman, etc.). Ask kids if they think God is stronger than these characters. Remind them that God is the strongest and *He is real!*

**Do not let
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Ro-



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by doing good.
Romans 12:21



Word Search

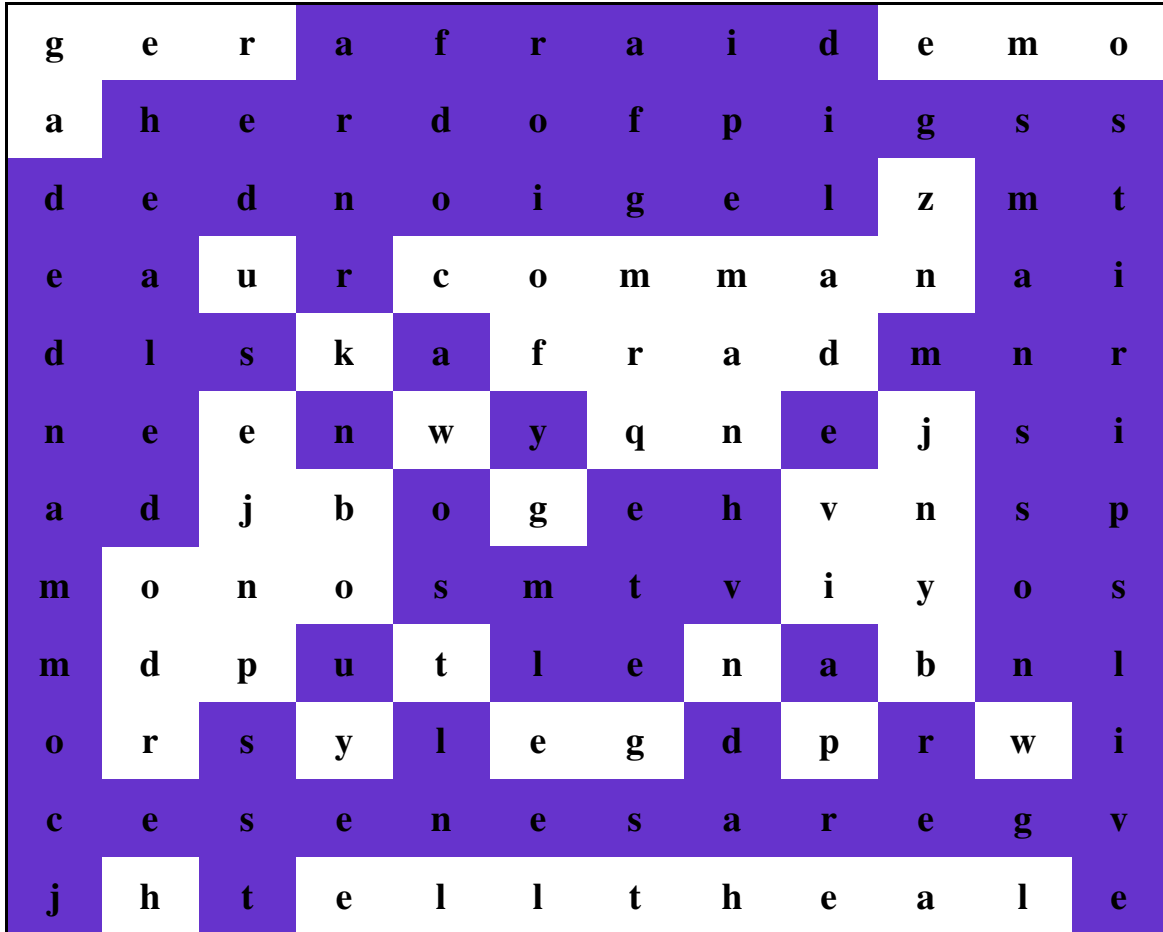
Jesus Has Power Over Evil

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Gerasenes	graveyard	Legion
demons	evil spirits	herd of pigs
commanded	afraid	Jesus
tell them	man's son	healed

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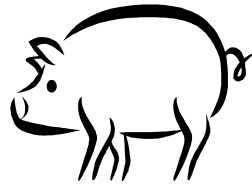
Jesus Has Power Over Evil



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Jesus sent the demons into a

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Jesus has

POWER

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