

JESUS SENDS DEMONS INTO PIGS

One day, two men who were acting like fierce animals, came up to Jesus. They acted that way because they had demons that made them mean and sick. They yelled, "What are you doing near us?"

Jesus looked around and saw a herd of pigs. The demons begged him, "If you take us from these men, throw us into the herd of pigs. And Jesus said, "Go." So they came out and went into the pigs and then the whole herd rushed down the mountainside and into the ocean. They were all killed.

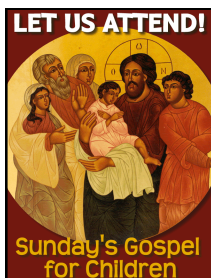
Those who were in charge of the herd ran very fast to the city. They told everyone about what they had seen. The people of the city came out to meet Jesus. Jesus then got into a boat and went to his own city.



Icon courtesy of Iconographics (www.theologic.com)

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. The men with demons asked Jesus a question. What did they ask?
2. They knew that Jesus had power over them because Jesus is God.
3. What did Jesus see when he looked around?
4. The men with demons knew Jesus would take them from the men. Where did they ask to go?
5. Did Jesus do what the demons asked? What happened then?
6. Jesus has power over all that is.



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Pre-12



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TWO MEN ARE HEALED

One day, our Lord Jesus Christ came ashore in the country of the Gergesenes. As He passed a by a graveyard, two men came out from between the tombs. These men had demons that made them act mean, and people usually could not pass there.

When the men saw Jesus, they said, "What do you want to do with us, Son of God? Are you going to tease or hurt us?"

Nearby, a big herd of pigs was feeding on a hill. The demons in the men begged Jesus, "If you make us leave these men, let us go into the herd of pigs."

Jesus just said, "Go!" and the demons left the men. They went into the pigs. Then the whole herd of pigs ran down the steep hill and into the sea. All the pigs in the herd died.

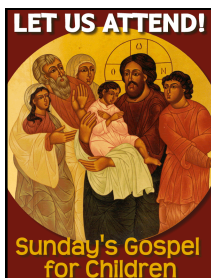
The people who had been watching over the herd ran away. They went into the city and told all about what had just happened to the men. The whole city came out to meet Jesus!



Icon courtesy of Iconographics (www.theologic.com)

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Where were the men when Jesus came by?
2. How did the men act? Would you have wanted to live near them?
3. What was on a hill nearby? What happened to them?
4. Who told the people of the city what had happened? What did the people of the city do?
5. This Gospel shows us how strong God is! With only one word, "Go!" even the demons obeyed Jesus. He healed two men and helped many others learn about Him.
6. If you are ever in a situation that seems too hard for you, remember this Gospel. Then pray and ask our Lord Jesus to help you as He helped the men in this Gospel. He can!



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JESUS CASTS OUT DEMONS

At that time, when Jesus came to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way. And behold, they cried out, “What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?” Now a herd of many swine was feeding at

some distance from them. And the demons begged him, “If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine.” And he said to them, “Go.” So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what

had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood.

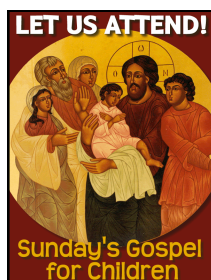
And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city.



Image courtesy of sxc.hu

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Where did the demoniacs come from when they met Jesus? Why do you think they were there?
2. What do the demoniacs call Jesus?
3. What did the demons beg Jesus to do? How did they know He would cast them out? (Make a guess—the Gospel reading doesn’t say.)
4. Who ran into the city? What did they do when they got there?
5. Why do you think the people in the city came to meet Jesus? Why did they ask Him to leave?
6. If you could have been there for part of the day, which part would you have wanted to see?



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JESUS CASTS OUT DEMONS

Characters: Narrator, Demoniacs, Demons,
Jesus

Narrator: At that time, when Jesus came to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way. And behold, they cried out,

Demoniacs: What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?

Narrator: Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged him,

Demons: If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine.

Narrator: And he said to them,

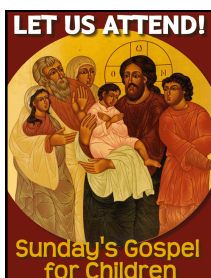
Jesus: Go.

Narrator: So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood.

And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city.



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DEMONS LEAP INTO THE SEA

At that time, when Jesus came to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way. And behold, they cried out, “What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?” Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged him, “If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine.” And he said to them, “Go.” So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and



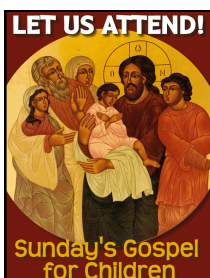
Image courtesy of sxc.hu

when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood.

And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What do the demons say to Jesus?
2. What do they know about Jesus?
3. Why do you think they ask “what have you to do with us?”
4. Who is in control or powerful in this gospel?
5. What does this gospel tell us about Jesus?
6. Do you agree with what this gospel is saying about Jesus? Why or why not?



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DEMONS HEAD OUT TO SEA

At that time, when Jesus came to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way. And behold, they cried out, “What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?” Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged him, “If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine.” And he said to them, “Go.” So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood.

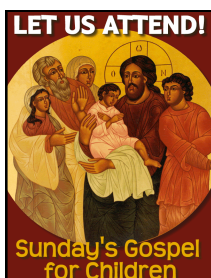
And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city.



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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. The demoniacs ask: “What have you to do with us, Son of God?” What might they mean by that question?
2. Why might a person today ask that question?
3. Is it sometimes difficult to see what God has to do with your daily life?
4. How might you go about investigating what God has to do with you?
5. Which method of investigation would you like to try exploring this week? How will you go about doing that?



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