

How to Become a Christian

Many people believe they are Christians because they were born in a Christian culture, go to church regularly, try to do their best, or live a good life. However, the Bible teaches that these things cannot make you a Christian. You become a Christian by simply taking these two steps:

- Acknowledge that you (along with all people) have sinned and fallen short of God's standards. ROMANS 3:23
- Personally believe that Jesus Christ, who was God in human flesh, died for your sins on the cross and rose again. I CORINTHIANS 15:3, 4

You may express your belief through prayer, asking Jesus to come into your life, and receiving Him as God's gift to you. JOHN 1:12, ROMANS 6:23, REVELATION 3:20

"For it is by grace you have been saved through faith ...it is the gift of God; not by works, so that no one can boast." EPHESIANS 2:8, 9

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Sermon Notes

April 25, 2010
The Chapel on the Campus

Power Encounter

The God Who Seeks and Saves

Luke 8:26-39

Jesus Encounters a Demonized and Desperate Man vv. 26-29

They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across the lake from Galilee. When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torture me!" For Jesus had commanded the evil spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places.

LUKE 8:26-29 (NIV)

- Demon possession is different from physical or mental/emotional illness. It is _____ in nature. v. 26

- Jesus' true identity

Confession of Jesus' true identity and _____

Confession of authority to _____

Jesus Confronts Demons Directly vv. 30-33

Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "Legion," he replied, because many demons had gone into him. And they begged him repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss. A large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into them, and he gave them permission. When the demons came out of the man, they went into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

LUKE 8:30-33 (NIV)

- Begging demons respond to Jesus' authority
vv. 30-31
- Desperate demons: _____ questions
vv. 32-33

Reaction to Jesus vv. 34-39

When those tending the pigs saw what had happened, they ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed man had been cured. Then all the people of the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were overcome with fear. So he got into the boat and left. The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return home and tell how much God has done for you." So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him.

LUKE 8:34-39 (NIV)

- The town's people: fear and _____
v. 37
- The man of the tombs: faith, freedom and _____
vv. 38-39

How Do You React to Jesus?