



HOME GROUP NOTES

Week of September 24

Rooted & Reaching: Life on the Other Side

In this series, we are focusing on why we exist: To know and be “Rooted in Jesus” and to fulfill our mission to “Reach our worlds.” Home groups are a great place where we can use our gifts and talents to encourage each other in both purposes.



Share It

Most of us are comfortable being with people like us. When do you remember being with people very different from yourself? What did you experience?



Study the Bible

Read Mark 5:1-17

Jesus is in a predominantly non-Jewish area known for its cult practices and Roman influence.

How is the man described? What was his / the demons first response to Jesus?

What miracle did Jesus perform? How might pigs fit into this story?

What were the responses of the other people from the area?

Read Mark 5:18-20

What was the first response of the healed man?

What was the command of Jesus to him and his response?

Knowing that this is a non-Jewish area, what message would this have been to Jesus' close followers?

In Matthew 15:29-31, Jesus again returned to the area where he healed the possessed man. What was the first response of the people from that same pagan area? What was the final response of these people? What changed?



Discuss Together

The title this week is about the "other side." These stories represent times when Jesus went to be with people who did not yet know Him. What conversations have you had with people who don't know Jesus?

In Mark 5:19, Jesus commanded the man to "Go home to your people and report to them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He had mercy on you." There are two commands: go to your home people ("your worlds") and report to them. What are some specific things that we could report to our 'home people?' What has the Lord "done for" us? How has he had "mercy on" us?

How did this happen in your life? What did people say or do in your story? What didn't they do?

What might be the process of when and how this could happen through us? How can this be a lifestyle and not a 'to-do list'?

What would help you feel ready and equipped to connect with people who need Jesus?



Pray

- For our Spanish speaking church, Fuente de Vida, and their retreat this weekend.
- For our missionary families around the world and their efforts to reach out.
- For our ministries of "Micah House" and "International Friendship Connection."



Apply It This Week

Reflect on this verse: "Go home to your people and report to them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He had mercy on you."

Be ready to share next week three things: (1) Who are "your people" that need Jesus, (2) What specific "things" and "mercies" God has done for you, and (3) how ready you feel to influence people.

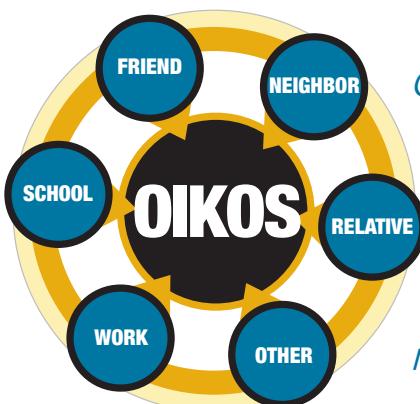
Life on the Other Side

MARK 4-8

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passage	Mark 6	Mark 8
location	_____	_____
number	5,000	4,000
initiator	_____	_____
leftovers	____ baskets	____ baskets

Oikos is the primary reason why _____% of all Christians actually are Christians.



Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you. —MARK 5:19