THE LIVING ROOM COMMUNITY CHURCH

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 2022 ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS (PART 2) JESUS LOVES THE OTHER SIDE

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Jesus Dropped A Bomb!

Early in his ministry He'd been teaching in Galilee, which is His own territory.

"... The crowd that gathered around him was so large he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake while all the people were along the shore at the water's edge." -Mark 4:1

"That day when evening came, he said to his disciples: "Let us go over to the other side." -Mark 4:35

That's The Bomb!

The Jews regarded the other side as the place where Satan lived. It was dark, it was evil, and it was demonic. It was the place where God is not. Nobody ever goes over to the other side, especially not a rabbi.

"What do you want with me? ... in God's name, do not torture me." -Mark 5:7

"What is your name?' My name is Legion, for we are many." -Mark 5:9

"Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. . . . they saw the man . . . dressed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. . . . Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region." -Mark 5:14-17

"As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him." -Mark 5:18

"So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed." -Mark 5:20

"I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and having nothing to eat." -Mark 8:2 "The people ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish." -Mark 6:42-43

"The people ate and were satisfied. Afterward the disciples picked up seven basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over." -Mark 8:8

Jesus is saying, you know, good news is coming for the twelve tribes of Israel; I haven't forgotten about them. They're mine; I want to feed them. And good news is coming for the seven nations of Canaan. I haven't forgotten them either. They're mine, too. I'll feed them, too. Twelve tribes, seven nations—it doesn't matter to me; I love them all. The gospel of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ is good news for everybody, even people on the other side.

"Great crowds came to him, bringing the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute and many others, and laid them at his feet; and he healed them. The people were amazed when they saw . . . and they praised the God of Israel." -Matthew 15:30-31

"In Christ there is neither Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free, male nor female, for all are one in Christ Jesus." -Galatians 3:28

"When the righteous prosper, the city rejoices. When the wicked perish, there are shouts of joy." -Proverbs 11:10

Righteous (tseh'-dek): "The righteous are those who are willing to disadvantage themselves in order to advantage the community." -*Tim Keller*

Question: Am I the kind of person about whom somebody in my neighborhood would say ...

"You know, I don't believe what he believes, but I shudder to think of what would happen to our neighborhood if he was not around?"

"She adds so much value, so much compassion, so much joy to our workplace—I may not agree with her faith, but I know we'd be a poorer office if she weren't here."

What's the other side that Jesus is calling you to?