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Moreover, we shouldn't forget that the terrain of the Gadarenes was not only geographical but also metaphorical. As we navigate our lives, we encounter emotional and spiritual Gadarenes as well. Places filled with fear, despair, and hopelessness may exist even in our closest circles. Jesus invites us to walk with Him into those spaces, bringing light and love.

As we meditate on this verse, let us ponder where God might be calling us to go. Are we willing to cross our own boundaries and step into the lives of those who need the life-giving message of Jesus? Reflect on the opportunities around you, pray for the courage to act, and be the light in someone else's darkness. In doing so, we embody Christ's heart—a heart that never ceases to seek and save the lost.

### Lift Up in Prayer

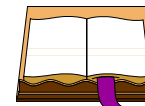
Leaders of the World as they navigate complex challenges; Archie as he travels his recovery journey; Yu Bedwell's uncle as he undergoes cancer treatment; Isra's friend Rosales facing significant medical challenges and a possible two-organ transplant; Scott Roeske, recently diagnosed with esophageal cancer—strength, healing, and comfort for him and his loved ones; David's four children—salvation, faith, and obedience; Alondra and her pregnancy—health and success throughout this journey; Jacinth's recovery from her previous operation; Jonathan's wife—God's healing as she undergoes chemotherapy; VanWinkle family—safe travels to the states; David's wife—future assignment as an assistant principal. In Jesus' name, Amen.

# CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Sunday Bible Study 10:00*

*Sunday Worship 11:00*

*Camp Humphreys Pacific  
Victors Chapel (Sanctuary)*



*Wednesday Bible Study 18:30*

*Camp Humphreys Pacific*

*Victors Chapel*

*Rooms: 143 (Adults)*

*164 (Children)*

June 21, 2026

No. 461

*“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:31)*

## **Crossing Boundaries: The Encounter in Gadarenes**

By Francis Schaeffer

In Luke 8:26, we read, "And they arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is over against Galilee." This verse marks a significant transition in Jesus' ministry and reveals profound truths about His mission and our own calling to reach beyond familiar borders.

To fully grasp the importance of this passage, we must consider the context. Jesus and His disciples had just endured a tumultuous journey across the Sea of Galilee, during which a fierce storm arose, threatening their lives. Yet, through a simple command, Jesus calmed the waves and wind. This miracle not only demonstrated His power over nature but also prepared His disciples for what lay ahead – an encounter that would challenge their understanding of God's mission and grace.

The Gadarenes were a Gentile population. They lived in a region characterized by a mixture of cultures, idolatry, and a distinct Hebrew heritage that had wandered into Hellenistic practices. To enter this area, the disciples crossed a boundary that many pious Jews would have avoided. This action alone speaks volumes about the heart of Christ and the boundaries He calls us to cross in our own lives.

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When we reflect on Jesus arriving at the Gadarenes, we witness a critical aspect of His ministry: the inclusion of the marginalized and the outcast. The act of entering a Gentile territory demonstrates a bold declaration that the message of the Gospel is not confined to a specific people or cultural background. Jesus was about to meet a man possessed by demons, a figure considered unclean and beyond redemption in the eyes of many.

This man embodied the very essence of despair and brokenness. He lived among the tombs, a place of death and isolation, unable to be tamed or brought back into society. Yet, to Jesus, he was not a lost cause; he was an opportunity for redemption. Jesus' journey to Gadarenes exemplifies His willingness to pursue those whom society deems unworthy or irredeemable. This is the heart of our Savior: He goes to the darkest places, to the abandoned souls, and offers them hope and healing.

As Christians, we are called to mirror this aspect of Christ's character. We often find ourselves in comfort zones, clinging to the known and familiar. But Jesus challenges us to step out, to engage with those who are different, those who may provoke our discomfort. He invites us to cross the boundaries of our own prejudices and fears, to embrace the Gospel's radical inclusivity. Every person, regardless of background, struggles, or sinfulness, is within reach of His grace.

In our modern world, the 'Gadarenes' may be represented by those we encounter daily who are marginalized – the homeless, the mentally ill, the addicts, the rejected. These populations may reflect societal fears or biases, yet they are precisely where we need to head. Jesus did not wait for the perfect person to come to Him; He went out, seeking and saving the lost. Our call is similar. We are not just to preach to 'our kind' but to reach those who feel they have no place in God's family.

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**There will be a designated offer to Malcolm Parsley's works in South Korea on July 5, 2026.**

**Notes:**

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**Totals for**  
**June 14, 2026**  
**Attendance:**  
**41**  
**Contribution:**  
**113.00 Dollars**  
**50,000 KRW**