

Luke 8:26-39

June 19, 2022

Today's sermon is all about "one." This story is the only time in Luke's gospel Jesus crosses the Sea of Galilee into Gentile territory. He encounters one man overcome by demons. He saves this one man back to restoration of his community. Sets him free from all that had previously bound him. Calls and send him to go and proclaim what God has done.

It's that one that caught my attention. Why just one crossing? Why just one man? Why not many others as we know there were certainly plenty of people in need of Jesus' saving work? I've wondered about this and perhaps we learn more in the parable of the Good Shepherd and lost sheep to come (Luke 15:4-7). Perhaps, Jesus is giving life to that parable.

One lost sheep matters. God's kingdom Jesus has come to reveal makes certain no one stands outside of God's grace. Jesus will go to great lengths to reveal this. Each person matters. Each person is loved.

Who is that one person this week you can go and proclaim what God has done? Who is that one person that needs to hear a word of encouragement, hope, good news, love? Go and do likewise just as that one man was called to do.