

OTHER SCRIPTURES: Compare Luke 4:31-41 and Matthew 8:14-17

TO HELP US STUDY

1. What town was Jesus in when this story begins? _____
2. What did Jesus do on the Sabbath day? _____
3. Who burst into the room while Jesus was preaching? _____
4. What did he yell? _____

5. What did Jesus do when this happened? _____
6. What did the evil spirit do when this happened? _____

7. What does this show us about Jesus? _____
8. Whose home did Jesus go to after he spoke at the synagogue? _____
Whom did he heal there? _____
9. What did Jesus do that evening? _____
10. How can we be stronger than the devil? _____

TO HELP US REMEMBER: *Young ones*—Mark 1:27, "He even gives orders to evil spirits and they obey him."

Older ones—Matthew 8:16-17

TO CHALLENGE TEEN THOUGHT

What are demons or evil spirits? Where do they come from? Are there such spirits at work in our world today? Study this and write your ideas on the back of this page.

TIPS FOR TEACHING PARENTS

"I just can't find time to study with my kids," one mother told me. She was no different than the rest of us. Living at our mad pace, few of us find time for the really important things. But let us suggest how to sandwich in some precious moments of storytelling and listening.

If our very small children have a regular nap time or quiet time, we can put them to bed or settle them down with a quick Bible story. They will go to bed more willingly, and the storytelling time will become a thing they look forward to. Dishes will wait for ten minutes. Really. And our floors won't get any dirtier while the story time happens. The little hearts and minds we mold are more important than dishes or floors anyway.

Older youngsters, especially those who walk home from school, can be stopped and held with a story when they burst in from school—*before* they get absorbed in toys or TV or homework.

These are only suggestions, of course. Each of us must do what works best in his or her home. You must plan your own realistic schedule. But we must plan, or this vital part of our children's lives will be crowded out by less important things.

FOR ADULT STUDY: Mt 10:1; 12:43-45; Mk 3:11; 5:1-20; 9:17-29; Lk 8:2; Acts 5:15-16; 8:7; 19:11-27.