



## SUPERIOR POWER

May 21, 2017 • Luke 8:26-39 • Pastor Ben Miller

Introduction:



Sermon Notes

**Big Idea: Access the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ's word to overcome the \_\_\_\_\_ of the enemy.**

### Movement One

- ◆ Recognize the \_\_\_\_\_ power of the enemy. (v. 26-27, 29b, 30)

Three Schemes of the Enemy to Enslave People:

- 1) He \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) He \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) He \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_.

- ◆ Recognize the \_\_\_\_\_ power of Christ's word. (v. 28-29a, 31-33)

### Movement Two

- ◆ Recognize the \_\_\_\_\_ power of the enemy. (v. 34-37)

One More Scheme of the Enemy to Enslave People:

- 4) He \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_.

- ◆ Recognize the \_\_\_\_\_ power of Christ's word. (v. 38-39)

**Personal Reflection and Application:**

1. Consider the quote from CS Lewis: "Humanity falls into two equal and opposite errors concerning the Devil. Either they take him altogether too seriously or they do not take him seriously enough." To which error do you think you are more prone?
2. Do you see any of the enemy's schemes to enslave through shame, isolation, death, or fear at work in your life?
3. What specific truth in the word of Christ would defeat the scheme you identified in question 2? Seek out and memorize verses that help you remember that truth, and pray that God would help you experience it in the power of his Spirit.
4. Is there any way you have figuratively "asked Jesus to depart" from you (see v. 37) by refusing to release control to him in some area of your life?
5. When have you seen Christ defeat the enslaving power of the enemy in your life (be specific)? Have you shared that story with those who need to hear? If not, identify what is holding you back and make a plan to share it.

**Gospel Community Discussion Questions:**

1. Consider the quote from CS Lewis: "Humanity falls into two equal and opposite errors concerning the Devil. Either they take him altogether too seriously or they do not take him seriously enough." To which error do you think you are more prone?
2. Read Luke 8:26-39. In what ways did the enemy exert his power in this man's life and in the lives of the townspeople? How have you seen similar schemes of the enemy in your own life?
3. Read Job 1:6-12, 1 Sam. 16:13-23, 1 Kings 22:6-28, Zech. 3:1-10, and Acts 19:11-20. What do these windows into the spiritual realm reveal about God's authority over our spiritual enemy?
4. Read Eph 6:10-19. In Luke 8, Jesus cast out the demon by his word (no magical practices, no striving). How can we use the word of Christ and prayer together to help us withstand the schemes of the devil? What role does our testimony play in withstanding the devil's schemes?

**Breakout Time**

Split your group into men and women to pray for one another and hold one another accountable. Discuss any ways you see the enemy exercising his power in your life. Discuss any prayer updates and celebrate any growth or answers to prayer.