

Message Study Guide**Executive Pastor Ben Boyd****Sunday, December 28 | 9 & 10:30 AM****Message Theme: “Preparing for a New Season”**

Message Overview

In this message, Executive Pastor Ben Boyd walks us through Luke 8:26–39 to show the authority and compassion of Jesus to rescue people from spiritual bondage and restore them to wholeness and purpose. Scripture reminds us that apart from Christ we are spiritually dead, enslaved to sin, and separated from God—but through Jesus, we are forgiven, restored, and sent out as witnesses of His grace. This study invites us to reflect on where Christ has delivered us, how He renews our strength, and how He calls us to live fruitfully for His glory.

Scripture Reading & Reflection**1. Jesus Confronts Bondage**

Read: Luke 8:26–27 (ESV)

Jesus intentionally enters a broken and dark place to meet a man enslaved by demons—reminding us that no one is beyond His reach.

Reflect:

- What stands out about where Jesus goes and who He engages?
 - What does this tell us about His heart for the broken?
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2. Our Condition Without Christ

Read: Ephesians 2:1–2 (ESV)

Paul reminds us that we were once dead in our sins, following the ways of the world and under spiritual bondage.

Read: Colossians 1:21–22 (ESV)

Through Jesus' death, those once alienated from God are now reconciled and made holy.

Reflect:

- How do these verses help explain the spiritual condition of the man in Luke 8?
 - How has Jesus changed your spiritual story?
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3. Jesus Has Authority Over Darkness

Read: Luke 8:28–31 (ESV)

Even demons recognize the authority of Jesus and submit to His power.

Read: Luke 8:32–33 (ESV)

Jesus decisively frees the man, demonstrating that His authority is unmatched.

Reflect:

- Why is it important to remember Jesus' authority when facing spiritual battles?
 - Where do you need to trust His power rather than your own strength?
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4. A Visible Transformation

Read: Luke 8:34–35 (ESV)

The once-tormented man is now clothed, calm, and sitting at the feet of Jesus.

Reflect:

- How does true transformation affect both the individual and the surrounding community?
 - In what ways has Jesus brought visible change to your life?
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5. Sent to Tell What Jesus Has Done

Read: Luke 8:38–39 (ESV)

Rather than staying with Jesus physically, the restored man is sent to proclaim what God has done for him.

Reflect:

- Why is personal testimony such a powerful witness?
 - Who in your life needs to hear what Jesus has done for you?
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6. Strength for the Journey

Read: Isaiah 40:28–31 (ESV)

God promises renewed strength to those who wait on Him.

Reflect:

- Where do you need God's renewing strength right now?
 - What does it look like to "wait on the Lord" in this season?
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7. A Call to Fruitfulness

Read: Luke 13:6–9 (NLT)

Jesus' parable reminds us that God is patient but desires fruit from our lives.

Reflect:

- What kind of spiritual fruit is God producing in you?
 - Are there areas where He is calling you to grow?
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Application Questions

- What bondage has Jesus freed you from that you can now testify about?
- How can you intentionally live as a witness to Christ this week?
- What practical step can you take to remain rooted in Jesus and bear fruit?