

**Lessons for the Mission Field:
When Jesus Says “No”**

Luke chapter eight, beginning with verse twenty-two, presents four (remember how Luke loves sets of four!) acts of Jesus that preface his sending out the twelve Apostles on their first mission.

1. Three Questions for Jesus:
 - a. Legion: “Can we possess the pigs?” *Luke 8:32*
 - b. Gerasenes: “Will you please leave?” *Luke 8:37*
 - c. Healed Man: “Can I come with you?” *Luke 8:38*

2. A Surprising Denial
 - a. Jesus says ‘Yes’ to demons and sinners!
 - b. Consider the place where this man is left
 - c. Consider the history this man has had

3. An Intentional Denial
 - a. God redirects: “return home”
 - b. God refocuses: “declare what God has done for you”

Application:

1. Do you find yourself in a difficult place? Wishing you could just run away and start over?
2. Do you find that God is saying either ‘No’ or ‘Not now’ to deep spiritual desires you long for?
3. What has God done for you? And who must you tell?