

# Characteristics of demonic activity

Mark 5:1-20

## Principles

- Many types of demons: “legion”(6,826)(vs. 9), possible to have multiple bondages, problems.
- Demons manifest through human behavior and weaknesses
- Our motivation for deliverance is Compassion (vs. 19)
- Count the cost: You may be rejected  
“Then they began to plead with Him to depart from their region.” (17)

## Ways people receive deliverance

- Salvation
- Calling out to God (Joel 2:32)
- Word “And He cast out the spirits with a word” (Matthew 8:16)
- Spirit “But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. (Matthew 12:28)
- Repentance: turning from sin
- Responding to altar call
- Direct confrontation & commands

## How to keep your deliverance

- Testify of your victory  
“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony” (Revelations 12:11)
- Stop doing what opened the door to the devil in the first place
- Repent when you sin, speak the blood of Jesus.
- Don’t allow the devil talk you out of your deliverance (Galatians 5:1)
- Continue to be filled with the word and the Spirit (Luke 11:24-26)
- Continue to be close to Jesus “Sitting at the feet of Jesus” Mark 8:35

## Characteristics of demonic activity:

1. **Unclean behavior:** sexually immoral/pornography/bondage/loose language (vs. 2).
2. **Obsession with death, afterlife** “among the tombs”(vs. 3,5): horror books, movies.
3. **Supernatural strength, ability** (vs. 3,4)
4. **Lack of control:** Illegal and abused prescription drug use, alcohol, binge drinking, gluttony.
5. **Counseling or professional help not working.** “No one could bind him... neither could anyone tame him” (vs. 3,4)  
As a point of balance some issues are not demonic, but the flesh that needs to be crucified. But, if you have tried everything you can to get free and it is not working then it is beyond your control and needs some outside spiritual intervention to break this off of your life. As a believer you cannot be possessed, but you can experience levels of oppression that can hold you in bondage.
6. **Avoidance** (vs. 5): Isolation, fear of people, denial, running from issues. Leaving church and relationships when confronted by an issue.
7. **“Crying out”** (vs. 5): Depression, inner pain, self-pity.
8. **Distraction** (vs. 5), Bringing attention to self, away from Jesus (example: people who interrupt services with noise, humor, excessive movement).
9. **Self-destruction** (vs.5): Suicide.
10. **Cutting of body** (vs.5): Tattoos, body piercing.
11. **Religious spirit:** “He ran and worshiped Him” (vs. 6) False worship excessively loud, attracting attention to them self rather than to Jesus. (May lift hands, shout praise to God, fast, and appear to give a word from the Lord!)
  - a. Acts 16:16,17
12. **Loud Confrontation** (vs. 7)
  - a. Extreme defensiveness. Devil doesn’t like to give up his territory (vs. 10)
  - b. Question’s your authority, “What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God?”
  - c. Wants to make a scene, embarrass you.
  - d. Person Act like you are the problem and blame you for tormenting them.
  - e. Wants you to back off. “I implore You by God that You do not torment me.”
13. **Not functioning mentally** After deliverance he was “clothed and in his right mind” (vs. 15)
  - a. Example: being distracted; glossed over eyes.
  - b. Irrational behavior or comments.
  - c. Bizarre mood swings.
13. **Lack of clothing** (vs. 15) Seductive dress