

## Why are we Frontline Student Ministries?

Intro.

Have you ever thought about why we are named Frontline Student Ministries? Why not Upfront Student Ministries? What does it mean to be Frontline?

### I. Definitions

#### A. **Frontline**

1. The front line is the place where two opposing armies are facing each other and where fighting is going on.

2. The most important and active position in a job or field of activity requiring they are highly experienced or proficient in the performance of one's duties.

3. The frontline is where the action is and people become highly trained.

4. Where is the battlefield? The mind 2 Cor. 11:3

You realize that if Satan can get us to believe lies then He can defeat us.

#### B. **Outpost**

1. a small military camp or position at some distance from the front line, used especially as a guard against surprise attack.

2. a remote location some distance from the front line where rest and training can take place.

3. the outpost is positioned against sneak attacks. We gather here weekly to examine the truth to see if we are believing Satan's lies and to adjust our lives to the truth. 2 Cor. 10:4-5

#### C. The **mission**

1. when you think about the mission that God has called Christians to what kind of thoughts come to mind?

2. I believe that the mission that God has called Christians to involves a number of different roles.

a. The most important role is to be a **disciple-maker** Matt. 28:19-20  
What does that mean?

(1) Help others place their faith in Jesus

(2) Help others to follow Jesus

(3) Help that person to bring their friends to Jesus

(4) Train others to reproduce and make disciples for themselves

b. We are to be **salt and light** Matt. 5:13-16

(1) not just to preserve (salt)- fight against evil and help people see their sin (light)

(2) but to live in such a way to make people thirsty (salt) and to help people see Jesus (light) and desire a relationship with Him.

(3) the only way that can happen is to be around people, to have intentional relationships with people. To be living an attractive life so people want Jesus.

3. We can't accomplish the mission God has given us unless we are sharing the good news of the gospel and living accordingly.

4. The **picture that I have** is a group of highly trained, courageously bold group of students who are engaged in the battle by telling others about Jesus. They are on the frontline.

5. Weekly they need to come off the frontline to the outpost, away from the battle to be refreshed, get more ammunition, and to be encouraged to stay in the battle. They are trained and equipped with ammunition to engage the enemy. Then sent back to the frontline. The most effective soldiers are the ones who have already had some combat experience.

## II. Jesus on the frontline with his disciples Mark 5:1-20 Read 5:1-5

A. As soon as Jesus and the disciples get out of the boat they are confronted by a demon possessed man.

B. How is the man described?

1. He lives in a grave yard. That is kind of creepy.
2. He is super strong and can break chains. They have tried to tie him up on a number of occasions but he keeps breaking their chains and running away.
3. No one can subdue him.
4. He ran around constantly and screamed and hurt himself with stones. His body is probably a bloody mess.
5. in Luke the man is described as naked.
6. Picture: naked, bruised and bloody, wild-man, who is incredibly strong running around in a cemetery screaming at the top of his lungs.
7. How many of you would like to share the gospel with him?

C. Notice when Jesus arrives what the man does. Read 5:6-8

1. He runs straight at Jesus and the disciples.

Do you think the disciples are afraid?

Do you think the disciples might have been asking themselves, "What in the world are we doing here? This is insane? Why did Jesus bring us to such a dangerous place?"

D. Question: What do you think Jesus is up to? After all, this was Jesus idea. In Mark 4:35 Jesus said, "Let us go over to the other side."

1. Jesus came to seek and to save the lost. Lost people are a mess, as is this man. Oftentimes, it takes us way out of our comfort zones. That is what is true of being on the frontline. It can be a scary place.

2. Jesus also came to train his disciples. He wanted them to see that they that they had to be on the frontline if they were going to make a difference in people's lives.

- a. Jesus knew that being on the frontline was not only a scary place but also a place of great learning and training.
- b. It was a place where they had to rely on Jesus.
- c. It was a place where their faith would be stretched and grow.
- d. it was the place where the would see the power of Jesus at work.

3. I can just imagine the disciples hiding behind Jesus and being so grateful that he was there. I can just imagine them having a conversation later.

"If Jesus hadn't been here I would have had no idea what to do. What would I have said to this crazy man?"

E. Do you have anybody in your life that when you think of them, they are the last person that you would think would come to Jesus? When you think about them they kind of scare you? Even the idea of talking to them is intimidating.

F. Notice this man runs straight to Jesus and what does he do?

He falls at Jesus feet and shouts at the top of his lungs, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!"

G. Jesus looks right at the man and asks him his name. (vs 9). **(Read 5:9)**

Jesus cares about the man. This man has been tormented for years and Jesus is not intimidated by the man's sin. He cares about the man's soul. The demons respond and say his name is "legion, for we are many."

H. Then Jesus casts out the demons and they go into about 2000 pigs and they all run into the water and are drown.

I. it is interesting to me the response of the towns people. **Read 5:14-17**. They see the man dressed, sitting, and in his right mind and instead of rejoicing they are afraid and plead with Jesus to leave.

J. Look at the response of the man who was demon possessed.( **Read 5:18**). He wanted to go with Jesus and Jesus told him no.

Why do you think Jesus told him "No"? **Read 5:19-20**

Jesus told him to go home and tell his family what God had done for him and that is exactly what he did.

This man had and encounter with Jesus and now he had a story to tell.

K. Have you had and encounter with Jesus?

If you haven't please talk to one of the adults that are here.

If you have, I think Jesus is saying the same thing to you that he said to this man.

"Go home, go to school, go to work and tell them how much the Lord has done for you."

L. What do you think the disciples learned from being on the frontline?

1. it was a place that was scary but where lives are set free when they come face to face with Jesus.

2. They learned that Jesus is the Son of the Most High God and is all powerful.

If you remember just before this when they were coming across on the boat there was a storm and Jesus was sleeping and the disciples thought they were going to die and so they woke up Jesus and he calmed the storm and the disciples responded with terror and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!" (4:41).

3. They learned that the frontline is where the action is.

4. They were terrified that day but they didn't die and they saw God do a miracle.

Don't you want to be on the frontline and see God work powerfully? God wants to work in you and through you if you will let Him. Not only do we need to be on the frontline, we need to spend time in the outpost to be equipped, refreshed, and be made aware of the sneak attack of lies that we may unknowingly be believing.

That is why we call our youth ministry Frontline Student ministry because we believe God will use you and do amazing things if you will trust Him, speak up for Him, depend upon Him, and pray for Him to work.