

The Invitation

Free the Captives

Mark 1:21-27

Launch

Are you a fan of scary movies? Why or why not? (If yes, what's your favorite?)

Explore

Read the passage

What about Jesus's teaching would have displayed a unique sense of authority? How was this authority demonstrated by his actions in this passage?

Colossians 1:13 says, *He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son He loves.* If this is true of us as followers of Jesus, why are we still subject to demonic influence?

Jeff referenced several passages that illustrate what demonic influence can look like: spiritual death, addiction, rebellion, hopelessness, divisiveness, and pride. Which of these is most prominent in American culture? What about with people at Central?

Apply

Growing up, what did you believe about angels and demons? How much of your belief was shaped by culture? How have your views changed over time?

It's difficult to have a proper perspective on spiritual warfare. (For example, if a person is an addict, how much of that is caused by their personality, upbringing, body chemistry, etc vs demonic influence in their life?) How do you discern if a bad situation in someone's life is primarily a result of evil forces or natural causes?

Pray

Pray that people at Central would walk closely with Jesus, trusting in his authority and power for protection and provision. Close with the Lord's Prayer.