

Unshattered

Overview	Jesus has the power to bring healing and freedom.
Theme	Unshattered
Metaphor/Image	Glass shattering
Treatment	When a man possessed by an unclean spirit shatters the calm of a worship service, Jesus drives the spirit out and restores wholeness to the man and the service. In doing so, Jesus demonstrates his authority and power to bring healing in people's lives.
Human Need	Freedom from domination by powers beyond our control
Experience	To come to recognize Jesus' authority over evil spirits that shatter the order of our lives. In Jesus, we can make our lives whole again.
Word	
Primary Scripture	Mark 1:21-28
Lectionary Week	4 th Sunday after Epiphany, Year B; Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Psalm 111, 1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Related Scripture	Mark 5:1-20 (Gerasene demoniac), Mark 4:35-41 (calming the storm)
Topics	
Primary Topics	Deliverance, freedom, healing, authority, salvation, evil, spirits, unclean,
Related Topics	Son of God, lordship, power, addictions, peace

Movie Clip Suggestions

1. *Monsters, Inc.* (2001)
Plot: Monsters generate their city's power by scaring children, but they are terribly afraid themselves of being contaminated by children, so when one

enters Monstropolis, top scarer Sulley (voice of John Goodman) find his world disrupted.

Clip: Mike (voice of Billy Crystal) gives Sulley a surprise when he presents him with the reconstructed door to the little girl's room. All it needs is the final piece, which Sulley has.

Time: (VHS) 1:24:02-1:25:00), (DVD) Ch. 31, 0:00-0:58, length :58

2. *When a Man Loves a Woman* (1994)

Plot: Alice Green (Meg Ryan) is an alcoholic whose attitude to her life, her children and especially her husband Michael (Andy Garcia) change after going through de-tox.

Clip: Alice makes a public confession at an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. While a clip that vividly displays the consequences of the internal demons of alcoholism, a warning, that it is long. Maybe, take a piece.

Time: (VHS) 1:54:45-1:58:40, length 3:55

3. *Unbreakable*- Although there is not a single scene, the plot of this film is about one man (Bruce Willis)'s discovery that his destiny is to save people. His unique trait? He is literally unbreakable. The film goes well with "Unshattered" and may work in a Bible study setting, or as a clip with lots of setup.

Music Descriptions

1. "Broken Wings"—Mr. Mister, 80s hit, great for a feature.
2. "Coming Out of the Dark"—Gloria Estefan, 90s hit, good for a feature.
3. "Heal Me"—Gary Chapman, contemporary Christian song, good for a feature.
4. "I Will Call Upon the Lord"—contemporary praise
5. "What a Mighty God We Serve"—contemporary praise
6. "Hear My Cry"—contemporary praise
7. "Silence, Frenzied, Unclean Spirit"—hymn

Lumiclip Description

A powerful visual illustration of the glass ball, which falls, hits the ground and shatters, and yet becomes whole again. Cinematic, Dramatic. Running time :35 Volume 7 Clips 6

Integration

Call to Worship

Begin with the biblical storytelling of the man with the unclean spirit, or an illustration, either told or demonstrated, of breaking glass. If available, use the Lumiclip. Then:

"Once glass is broken, it can never be put back together in the same way again.

We often feel the same way about our own lives, which are scarred by the shattered glass of broken relationships, bad decisions, and pain.

The good news is that Jesus is capable of restoring even the most broken and shattered of us. In driving out the unclean spirit in Mark's story, Jesus restores both the man and the worship service at which it happened. Let's celebrate the power of Christ to unshatter our lives."

Biblical Storytelling

Be sure to make the unclean spirit's voice loud. Shatter the calm of the worship service with your voice. If you're really brave, you might even "accidentally" break glass with a sweep of the arm while telling the story, to capture the experience of the interruption. Pause momentarily before returning to the story.

Closing Words

"Thanks be to God for the healer Jesus, who can unshatter us when we are subject to our own demons. Go this week and live in the wholeness of Christ's authority and power. Amen."

Prayer

This is a good week for an extended group prayer time.

Invite the congregation to reflect, for the purpose of discerning the evil spirits present in each of our own lives: What is the spirit in each of us that shatters our relationships? Fear, greed, anger, self-pity, laziness, gluttony, lazy, pride, jealousy? (Name others if appropriate). Have people name those things. Recognize our subjection to these spirits, and ask for Jesus' power to drive them from us.

Alternately, pray for others that are subject to unclean spirits, whose lives have been shattered. Ask Jesus to drive these spirits out and restore their lives to wholeness.

Display

A collection of glass items- flutes, balls, frames, etc: both broken and intact.

Other

Related mPower experience: "Get Out!"; tell the Humpty Dumpty story in the children's sermon, with a Jesus twist on the end.

Keywords

Deliverance, freedom, healing, authority, salvation, evil, spirits, unclean, Son of God, lordship, power, addictions, peace, glass, broken, shatter, unshattered, *Monsters Inc.*, *Unbreakable*, *When a Man Loves a Woman*