**Morning sermon series: Heaven Meets Earth**

 **"Faith that Follows" (**Matthew 8v18-34)

*What are the partnerships and relationships that shape your life?*

**1) Follow Me!** (v18-22)

The kingdom breaks in, and heaven meets earth, as Jesus calls people to follow him. The result is tension and conflict! And so we need to know that we belong to heaven and to Christ. Real faith is faith that follows him no matter what.

*How are you responding in your life at the moment to the person of Jesus?*

**2) Nothing in Common** (v28-34)

The astonishing, divine authority of Jesus, the Heavenly King! The demons have nothing in common with Jesus (v29). But their beliefs about him and about Judgement are sound! They know nothing of Jesus' beauty and goodness, and are left in submissive fear (v31). The people of that region of the Gadarenes make the same, tragic mistake (v33-34).

It's not enough to believe right things about Jesus. We must have faith that knows his goodness and so follows (v19-20). We must have faith that wants to be "all in" with Jesus (v21-22).

**3) Everything in Common** (v23-27)

*Do you ever worry about putting all your eggs in Jesus' basket?*

This is the King who commands the winds and the waves: with him is the only safe place to be (v26-27).

*Do you belong to him? Does he belong to you?* Amazingly, the Christian has everything in common with Jesus; and he is in the boat and in control, even when we lose our nerve.

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me...And surely I am with you always" (Matt 28v18-20).

**Heaven meets Earth, as faith trusts and follows Christ its King**!