

HUMBLE FAITH

Pastor Lucas Almeida—Central Baptist Church—April 2nd, 2023

Mark 7:24-30

(ESV)

[24] And from there he arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden. [25] But immediately a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet. [26] Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. [27] And he said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." [28] But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." [29] And he said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter." [30] And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone.

INTRODUCTION

- **Proverbs 11:2**—*When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with the humble is wisdom.*
- **Proverbs 18:12**—*Before destruction a man's heart is haughty, but humility comes before honor.*
- **Proverbs 22:4**—*The reward for humility and fear of the Lord is riches and honor and life.*

Humility is a sign of strength; pride is a sign of weakness.

Jesus is always approachable when we embrace a humble faith.

A HUMBLE POSTURE

Tyre and Sidon

- Northwest of Capernaum
- Modern day Lebanon
- Mediterranean Sea
- Largely gentile cities

Whenever our needs drive us to the feet of Jesus, these needs are gifts from God to us.

"I have learned to kiss the wave that throws me against the Rock of Ages."—**Charles Spurgeon**

The Syrophenician woman falls at the feet of Jesus because she recognizes he is Lord.

Matthew 15:25—*But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.”*

We don't just need to tell our children about Jesus, we need to tell Jesus about our children.

A CALM ANSWER

Was Jesus being overly harsh with the Syrophenician woman?

(1) Jesus was not saying no to the woman's request.

John 1:11–12—*[11] He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. [12] But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God...*

Romans 1:16—*For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.*

Hebrews 10:4—*For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.*

Revelation 5:9

*“Worthy are you to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God
from every tribe and language and people and nation...*

(2) Jesus was testing the faith of the woman.

God's promises are granted to us by faith.

1 Peter 1:6–7—*[6] In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, [7] so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

“Christianity is not the removal of suffering, but the addition of grace to endure suffering triumphantly.” –**Thomas Watson**

The woman's response: I know there is enough grace in you, Jesus, even for an outcast like me.

Faith is the power that moves the heart of Christ.