

**A Mother's Faith**  
**Matthew 15:21-28**

Rich O'Toole

05/09/21

**I. Traveling to enemy territory. Matthew 15:21-22**

As Jesus traveled to Tyre and Sidon, these cities had previously been \_\_\_\_\_ by the Lord because of their wickedness in the past.

- **Syro-Phoenician** means this mother was half Phoenician and half Syrian, considered a true Gentile \_\_\_\_\_ by the Jews.

Jesus previously left Israel after telling the religious leaders they were defiled; but Jesus is always available to the \_\_\_\_\_ and needy who will cry out to Him.

**II. Jesus did not answer this mother. Matthew 15:23-24**

This mother is desperate and has come seeking the only \_\_\_\_\_ who can heal her daughter.

- At that time, instead of being compassionate towards needy people, the Disciples tell Jesus to \_\_\_\_\_ them away.

*"As such, for the present, a Gentile woman had no \_\_\_\_\_ upon Him; and so He answered her not a word."* (H.A. Ironside)

**III. In desperation, the mother worships. Matthew 15:25-26**

This time the mom comes to Jesus in \_\_\_\_\_ worship and falls at His feet and calls Him Lord (*kyrios*: master, owner).

- Moms, when you are desperate for your children, and you are puzzled by the silence of Jesus; \_\_\_\_\_ more and be sure the Lord hears your cries.

The word Jesus uses in **vs.26** is the Greek word for a \_\_\_\_\_.

**IV. The mother's faith expressed. Matthew 15:27-28**

This mother is saying, *"I understand that Israel must be first, however if You simply use a crumb of Your \_\_\_\_\_, it will be enough to heal my daughter."*

- This mother's faith was great because she believed and trusted Jesus, even when everything was against her; she proved that she believed and trusted by coming and \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.

**V. Conclusion.**

Jesus' love is without borders, because God so loved the \_\_\_\_\_ that He gave His Only Son to die for our sin.

- This mother was a sinner needing help; so she \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus, and then desperately cried out to Him for healing.

**Small Group Discussion**

*Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?*

1. *Why were the cities of Tyre and Sidon notable?*  
**Luke 10:14, Judges 10:6-16, Zechariah 9:1-4**
2. *Why did this mother come to Jesus in the first place?*  
**Matthew 9:30-31**
3. Read **Matthew 15:23**. Jesus' disciples urge Him to send the Canaanite woman away. *What reason does Jesus give for not initially addressing her plea (v. 24)?*  
**Matthew 10:5-6, Matthew 14:15, Mark 6:34**
4. *Why did Jesus say to the woman in Matthew 15:24, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel"?*  
**John 1:11-13, Acts 1:8, Romans 1:16, John 3:16, Isaiah 42:6, Titus 2:11, 1 Timothy 4:10**
5. Read **John 4:25-42**. *Why did the woman leave her water pot/jar behind when she went into the village to tell others about Jesus? What does that act represent for us? What has changed in your life because of Jesus? What areas of your life still need surrender?*  
**2 Corinthians 5:17, 2 Corinthians 7:10, Hebrews 11:8, Romans 12:1-2**
6. Discuss the difference between Jesus referring to this woman as a little dog and the Jewish sentiment referring to Gentiles as dogs.  
**Acts 22:19-23**
7. The Canaanite woman had faith that a "crumb" from Christ would provide a breakthrough. In her case, the crumb was healing. *Can you recall a time when a simple crumb or glimmer of hope was enough to answer a prayer in your life?*  
**Matthew 8:8-10, Mark 7:25**