

COLLECTIVE

May 8, 2022

FAMILY SUNDAY

THE FAITH OF A CANAANITE WOMAN

Matthew 15:21-28

Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to Him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.”

Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.” He answered, “I was only sent to the lost sheep of Israel.”

The woman came and knelt before Him. “Lord, help me!” she said. He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to their dogs.” “Yes it is, Lord”, she said “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.”

Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.

This story is about a nameless Canaanite mother who is a nobody in the eyes of the people, the Israelites, but her deep love for her child gave her enduring persistence, faith and courage leading Jesus to perform a miracle and healing her demon-possessed daughter.

Why is this mother so symbolic?

She is a woman

She is a Gentile

She is a Canaanite

She has a demon-possessed daughter

What lessons can we learn from this Canaanite woman?

1) God responds to persistent faith.

James 1:12

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

2) God sees the posture of your heart.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.

3) God wants you to take your struggles to Him.

Regret looks back

Fear looks around

Worry looks in

Faith looks up

Drive your struggles to the Cross.

At the Cross, you will find His healing, His grace, His redemption, His mercy and above all His immeasurable love and goodness for you.