

# MARK THE KING AND THE CROSS

Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.  
Matthew 15:28 (ESV)

## Mark 7:24-30 – Great Faith In Jesus Brings Great Mercy From Jesus

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### Application

1. Our past doesn't matter. What matters is that we humbly ask mercy from Jesus.
2. Don't play favorites at church. The mercy of Jesus that joins us together is greater than any differences that pull us apart.

### Life Group Questions

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1. Read Mark 7:24-30 to familiarize yourself with the passage.
2. Did Jesus intend to insult the woman in this parable by calling her a dog? Why or why not?
3. Why does this woman's answer evidence remarkable faith? What does she do that in this Gospel no one has done?
4. The apostles could only see this woman's background. They couldn't see the faith in this woman's heart, which is what really mattered. It is easy for us to fall into the same trap. What steps can we take to embrace Christians because of our common faith and experience of God's mercy, instead of cultural or economic similarities?
5. Even though this woman realized she didn't deserve Jesus' mercy, she was confident Jesus' mercy was so great there would be plenty of crumbs for her to receive even before the mission to the Gentile world began. When we pray, do we ask for things we don't deserve because we are confident God has so much grace and mercy that he will give us what we don't deserve? How does this change the way we pray?

*I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. Isaiah 45:5–6 (ESV)*

*These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Matthew 10:5–6 (ESV)*

*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. Romans 1:16 (ESV)*

## The Background

*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. Mark 7:24 (ESV)*

*Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to  
the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. Mark 7:31 (ESV)*

*Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the sea, and a great crowd  
followed, from Galilee and Judea and Jerusalem and Idumea and  
from beyond the Jordan and from around Tyre and Sidon. When the  
great crowd heard all that he was doing, they came to him.  
Mark 3:7–8 (ESV)*

## The Woman

*But immediately a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit heard  
of him and came and fell down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, a  
Syrophoenician by birth.... Mark 7:25–26 (ESV)*

*And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out...  
Matthew 15:22 (ESV)*

## The Plea

*...And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter.  
Mark 7:26 (ESV)*

*...and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my  
daughter is severely oppressed by a demon." Matthew 15:22 (ESV)*

*But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and  
begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying out after us."  
Matthew 15:23 (ESV)*

*He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of  
Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me."  
Matthew 15:24–25 (ESV)*

## The Parable

*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." Mark 7:27 (ESV)*

*But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the  
children's crumbs." Mark 7:28 (ESV)*

*And he said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon  
has left your daughter." And she went home and found the child lying in  
bed and the demon gone. Mark 7:29–30 (ESV)*