

## **“A Surprising Response from Jesus”**

### **Matthew 15:21-28**

Intro: Jesus had healed hundreds of people from various diseases and demon-possession. So why does he seem to give this Canaanite woman a hard time?

- I. The Canaanite woman’s first cry
  - a. “Lord, Son of David...”: Jewish messianic title (Mt 1:1)
  - b. “Have mercy”: recognizes Jesus’ power and position
  - c. Her daughter’s condition: demon-possessed, suffering
- II. Jesus’ first response
  - a. Not a word!
  - b. His disciples intervene
- III. Jesus’ second response
  - a. Reiterates his instruction from Mt 10:5-6
  - b. *Then why was he in this region?* (Cf. Jn 4:4)
- IV. The woman’s second cry
  - a. She knelt before him
  - b. “Lord, help me!”
- V. Jesus’ astounding response
  - a. Does he refer to her as a *dog*?
  - b. What is “the children’s bread”?
- VI. The woman’s astounding rebuttal
  - a. When “crumbs” are not crumbs (she gets it!)
  - b. She exemplifies persistence in prayer (Cf. Lk 18:1-8)
- VII. Jesus’ ultimate response
  - a. “...great faith!”: His highest praise (Cf. Mt 8:10)
  - b. He heals her daughter remotely with a word

Close: Was this a test? Yes! Great faith does not come easily. It was also a teaching moment for the disciples: Jesus *is* for the Gentiles, too!