

Devotional: "[I Don't Have Much](#)" (4:30) (follow with prayer)

Learn

1. Read Matthew 15:21-28. How did the passage and sermon impact you?
2. In verses 22 and 23, we meet a surprising contrast: a crying woman and a silent Jesus. Why didn't the Canaanite woman simply return home when Jesus didn't respond to her?
3. How was the Canaanite woman apparently rejected outright by both the disciples (v. 23) and by Christ Himself (v. 24)? Why would they both reject her? How does she respond to this "double-barrel" rejection and what should that response teach us today?
4. How does Jesus apparently insult the Canaanite woman in her third test of her faith in verse 26? How does she respond and what should that teach us today?
5. On what grounds could Jesus finally respond positively to this remarkable woman who passed all three of his tests?

Practice

1. Spiritually, we who are Christians know the burden of God's silence at times when it seems like He does not answer our prayers. But what are two major reasons why God sometimes appears to be silent to us and how should we respond?
2. Compare the two pleas/prayers in verse 22b and verse 25. What differences do you notice between them? Why are some of our shortest prayers the best prayers?
3. When the Canaanite woman comes to Christ on behalf of her daughter, why does Christ deal with the mother first before he heals the daughter? How does this translate into our lives and difficulties with our children?

Change

- Why is it critical as Christians that our faith continues to grow and mature despite apparent silence, rejection, or insults?