



The Gospel of Mark

Group Guide: Week 14, Mark, 7:24-37

INTRODUCTION

In this passage Jesus enters the Gentile region of Tyre and Sidon, after a very direct confrontation with the Pharisees. While in this region Jesus tries to hide His presence, but it seems that His reputation as healer has spread even among the Gentiles. Jesus knew that His mission from the Father was focused: feed the children. While the children of God were those who were Jewish and in covenant with God, we see that God feeds those who approach Him in faith as though they are His children too. These encounters should bring hope to our hearts as we see the foreshadowing of Jesus bringing even greater healing to those who are not ethnically Jewish and approach Him in faith. The mercies of the Father to bring salvation to all nations through the death of the Son are innumerable, let us rejoice in His goodness together.

PRAYER

READ

Ask two group members to read Mark 7:24-37

SUMMARIZE

Ask two group members who didn't summarize last week to summarize the passage this week.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever been afraid to appear weak or incapable so much so that you adamantly affirmed something, only to find out later you were wrong? Did you ultimately feel weak and incapable when you did learn you were wrong?

2. In verse 27, Jesus makes the distinction between the nation of Israel and the Gentile nations; children vs. dogs. More specifically, Jesus is referring to this woman as a dog and not a child. Rather than cast off this label, the woman wears it. What does the woman's response say about

(ADVENT) PROPHECY OF JESUS

Seed of David: Psalm 132:11, Isaiah 9:6

Born in Bethlehem: Micah 5:2

Born of a virgin: Isaiah 7:14

Called Immanuel: Isaiah 7:14

(ADVENT) PROPHECY FULFILLED

Seed of David: Acts 13:23, Romans 1:3

Born in Bethlehem: Matt. 2:1, Luke 2:4-6

Born of a virgin: Matt. 1:22-23

Called Immanuel: Matt. 1:22-23

FURTHER STUDY

As you read write out any words in this passage that would be helpful for you to look up in a dictionary.

her faith after having just been referred to as a dog? What does this teach you about your faith/the Christian faith?

3. Initially Jesus turned down the woman’s request to heal her daughter, but the woman petitions Jesus to move now and she does so humbly. Often times we petition for the Lord to move immediately, but we don’t approach Him in the same humility. In what ways are you quick to get frustrated with God when He doesn’t answer your prayer the first time?

NOTES

4. In response to the woman’s faith, Jesus heals her daughter. Notice that Jesus is healing a Gentile. This foreshadows the ministry that the Father would bring through the Son dying for all people of all nations. In your own words, how would you describe this goodness of God; that in His grace the “dogs” have now become children?

5. When Jesus heals the deaf man it was so amazing to the people around that their astonishment could not be measured and they had no control because of their delight. Has a good gift from God in your life ever caused so much amazement delight that you took your eyes off of Him and stumbled?

6. Throughout Mark, Jesus keeps attempting to hide Himself. He pulls the deaf man to the side and he charges the deaf man to go and tell no one after healing him. Is it hard for you to trust God when He works in a way that is secretive or hidden? Do you want to take control for yourself? Does lack of control bring fear? How do you deal with things about God you don’t know?

ADVENT READING WEEK 2 (Luke 2:1-7)

“1 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 And all went to be registered, each to his own town. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. 6 And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.”

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION:

Mark 7:15

PRAY TOGETHER