

He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means "Be opened!"). 35 At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly. Mark 7:34,35

Sierra Community Church June 17th, 2012-Dan Wilvers



The story of the King.. who came to serve.

Part 22:

Give Me What I Don't Deserve

Mark Chapter 7 verses 24-35

"Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you."

5 Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.6 Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.

Isaiah 35:4-6

But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. 10 In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. 11 Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters.

Hebrews 2:9-11

How To Approach Jesus & Why We Can Do It That Way

Jesus left that place and went to the vicinity of Tyre. Mark 7:24a

Jesus and his disciples traveled NW onto the region of Tyre and Sidon. Out of the land of Israel into Gentile territory of what is ancient Phoenicia, an area that today encompasses southern Lebanon.

Why?

1. To escape the pressure of the multitudes

Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself. John 6:15

2. Jesus to escape the possible arrest and execution by Herod and he (Herod) said to his attendants, "This is John the Baptist; he has risen from the dead! That is why miraculous powers are at work in him." Matthew 14:2

3. Jesus greatest pressure was from the Jewish religious leaders But the Pharisees went out and plotted how they might kill Jesus. Matthew 12:14

4. Jesus used the trip to reinforce the truth of his last encounter Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them." Mark 7:15

How to Approach Jesus

Even outside Israel Jesus fame had spread

He entered a house and did not want anyone to know it; yet he could not keep his presence secret. In fact, as soon as she heard about him, a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an impure spirit came and fell at his feet. 26 The woman was a Greek, born in Syrian Phoenicia. She begged Jesus to drive the demon out of her daughter.

Mark 7:24b-26

The word “beg” is in the present progressive meaning she just kept on begging. Nothing could stop her.

In fact in Matthew 15 the corollary account it says the disciples complained to Jesus.

But Jesus gave her no reply, not even a word. Then his disciples urged him to send her away. “Tell her to go away,” they said. “She is bothering us with all her begging.”

Matthew 15:23

Jesus says to her:

“First let the children eat all they want,” he told her, “for it is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.”

Mark 7:27

What he’s actually saying here is: I’m not here for you, I’m not here for the Gentiles, I’m resting right now and I’m going to my people (the Jews) first, Gentiles come later.

She says, “I get you, I’m not supposed to be at the table.”

“Yes, Lord,” she replied, “but even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.”

Mark 7:28

I am not of one of the tribes of Israel, I do not have God’s Word, I don’t have the Ten commandments, I don’t live under the sacrificial system, I am unworthy I don’t have a place at the table.

She recognizes the challenge by Jesus of her unworthiness, but also the offer to be fed, and she accepts both.

Jesus was impressed. “You’re right! On your way! Your daughter is no longer disturbed. The demonic affliction is gone.” She went home and found her daughter relaxed on the bed, the torment gone for good.

Mark 7:29,30

The fact is this woman is the first person in the Gospel of Mark to hear and understand a parable of Jesus’. She enters the parable and accepts the terms by which Jesus addresses her, and she has met a living LORD with whom she has struggled and contended.

**She is in fact a female Jacob who has said
I will not let you go until you have blessed me.**

You see there are two ways to fail to let Jesus be your Savior:

1. A superiority complex-by being too proud.
2. Is an inferiority complex- by being so self absorbed to believe “I am so awful.” -----God could never love me.

Why We Can Approach Jesus the Same Way This Woman Did

Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him. 33 After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man’s ears. Then he spit and touched the man’s tongue.

Mark 7:31-33

What’s this all about?