

THERE'S MORE TO JESUS

ENCOUNTERS *with* JESUS

LIFE CHANGING LEARNINGS FROM THE LIFE OF CHRIST

THE SYRO-PHOENICIAN WOMAN

MARK 7: 24-30

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HURDLES AND TESTS

- Let's Read Mark 7:24-30 and Matthew 15:21-28
- This concerned mother had some significant hurdles!
 1. Tyre and Sidon are Gentile territories. She lived outside of God's covenant.
 2. Tyre and Sidon fought against Israel in 2 B.C. She is considered an enemy.
 3. She is a woman approaching 13 Jewish men!
 4. Jesus will not reply, and the disciples are asking him to say "Go away!" She was considered a bother.
 5. She is tested by Jesus with an analogy whereby she is the dog.

PERSIST IN PRAYER

1. Persistence in prayer clarifies what we really want.
2. Persistence in prayer demands waiting on God, and this is the fertile ground of spiritual growth.
3. Persistence in prayer purifies our desires and draws us closer to the will of God.

UNANSWERED PRAYER

- There can be conditions in a believer's life that would cause our prayers to be denied!
 1. Willful deliberate sinful patterns will inhibit our prayers. (Is. 59:2, Ps. 66:18)
 2. Unforgiveness will inhibit our prayers (Matt. 18:35)
 3. Selfish motives will inhibit our prayers (James 4:3)
 4. Doubt and disbelief will inhibit our prayers. (James 1:6-7)
- Prayers that are in alignment with God's heart and purposes are well heard and often granted.

ANSWERED PRAYER

“And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for.”

1 JOHN 5:14-15

“And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.”

LUKE 11:9-10