

CALL TO PRAYER

Begin by calling upon God: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Let us pause for a moment, and listen attentively to this week's passage.



THE WORD OF GOD

Matthew 15:21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a **Canaanite woman** of that district came and called out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon." But Jesus did not say a word in answer to her. Jesus' disciples came and asked him, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us." He said in reply, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, "Lord, help me." He said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour.

The Gospel of the Lord

FAITH SHARING

Questions of the Week

Choose one

1. What in this story strikes you as powerful? What touches your heart? What images do you take away from this reading?
2. When has compassion for another moved me beyond my comfort zone?
3. When has my faith in Jesus helped me to be courageous?



CLOSING PRAYER

God, may we love you in all things and above all things and reach the joy you have prepared for us beyond all our imagining. We ask this, as we ask all things, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

GOSPEL WORD SEARCH

E F D Y K J T D I K
 C G M A T R E E W F
 H A A A V L S T C R
 G T B M A I J N S O
 H L I E O T D E M J
 E L H A N H L M A S
 R V M R F P D R T P
 R K U H I P F O T A
 E O H C L Y A T H R
 H T S T M T M S E C
 C I I Z W A N O W S
 D H S N S Z K L O H
 A I I T A B S E D E
 Z B E L E A R S I E
 E R G I D H N X B P
 S I C K A R K A J B
 D A U G H T E R C V
 W O M A N V Y N M N
 B K W J A I O Z G Q
 Y C F T A E R G E M

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|-----------|-----------|
| CANAANITE | ISRAEL |
| CHILDREN | LOST |
| DAUGHTER | MASTERS |
| DAVID | MATTHEW |
| DISCIPLES | SCRAPS |
| FAITH | SHEEP |
| GREAT | TABLE |
| HEALED | TORMENTED |
| HOMAGE | WOMAN |
| HOUR | |

GOSPEL GLOSSARY

The **Canaanite woman** is from the lowlands near the Dead Sea, where the people were descendants of Canaan. They were considered cursed, because of the sin of Canaan's father Ham (Genesis 9:22-27). Jesus reverses this ancient curse by healing her daughter.