



**Mustard Seed Children's Lesson Summary for October 18, 2009
Released on Wednesday, October 14, 2009**

"Jesus and a Believing Mother"

Lesson Text: Mark 7:24-30

Background Scripture: Mark 7:24-30

Memory Verse: "The woman...besought him that he would cast forth the devil out of her daughter" (Mark 7:26).

Mark 7:24-30

24 And from thence he arose, and went into the borders of Tyre and Sidon, and entered into a house, and would have no man know it: but he could not be hid.

25 For a certain woman, whose young daughter had an unclean spirit, heard of him, and came and fell at his feet:

26 The woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by nation; and she besought him that he would cast forth the devil out of her daughter.

27 But Jesus said unto her, Let the children first be filled: for it is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it unto the dogs.

28 And she answered and said unto him, Yes, Lord: yet the dogs under the table eat of the children's crumbs.

29 And he said unto her, For this saying go thy way; the devil is gone out of thy daughter.

30 And when she was come to her house, she found the devil gone out, and her daughter laid upon the bed.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Show the students that Jesus rewards faith.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. Jesus left Galilee and went into Gentile territory.
2. Because of the woman's faith, Jesus gave her what she asked for.
3. Jesus gives salvation to all who trust in Him.

PLANNING LESSON AIDS:

For Telling the Lesson, bring a map showing both Galilee and Phoenicia (or Tyre and Sidon).

For Helping to Remember, for each child bring a quarter sheet of brown or tan construction paper. Draw a 4-inch circle on each, and print "God Gives Good Gifts" in the circle. Also bring safety scissors (blunt tip), markers, and chocolate chips or decorating candies.

For the lesson activity, make a copy of the Word Search for each child.

TEACHER'S NOTES:

Time: A.D. 29
Place: near Tyre

Jesus traveled through Galilee, preaching and healing. To escape ever-present crowds, He left Jewish territory and walked northward into Phoenicia (modern Lebanon). There He entered a house in secret to get some rest.

A local woman found a way to get into that house, desperate for Jesus to cast out a demon from her daughter. Though this woman was not Jewish, she believed Jesus would help her child. The woman knelt before Him and made her request. Jesus answered her by saying that the children should be fed before any food is given to pet dogs. In other words, God's gifts had to be given to Jews first and only later to non-Jews.

The woman humbly replied that she was willing to accept the children's unwanted leftovers, since Jesus already had been giving God's gift to the Jews, and many did not want it. Because of her humility and faith, Jesus expelled the demon from a distance.

When the grateful woman got home, she found that her daughter was well and was free of the torment the demon had been causing. Jesus blesses those who trust Him for freedom from sin's power and penalty.

BEGINNING THE LESSON:

Julie came into the living room and said to her brother, "Jack, I left the last cookie on the table for you."

"Oh, no, Julie," Jack replied. "The dog can reach it there."

"She will not get it," his sister said. "The table is too high."

Jack jumped up from the floor and ran into the dining room. As he rounded the corner, he saw the dog leaning her front paws on the edge of the table, her tongue licking out dangerously close as she strained to get the treat.

"No, Chelsea!" Jack shouted. "Cookies are not for dogs!"

As Chelsea fled under the table, Jack grabbed the cookie. "That was close!" he said as he carefully examined his treasure.

"I am sorry, Jack," his sister said with surprise. "I never saw Chelsea do that before."

In our lesson today, we will find that Jesus told a mother who needed His help that the children's food should not be given to dogs. Of course, He was not really talking about food or dogs. Listen carefully to find out what important thing He wants us to know about trusting Him.

TELLING THE LESSON:

Jesus had been preaching in Galilee (show map). Then He walked northward into Phoenicia, where there were not many Jews. He entered into a house where He could get some rest away from the crowds of people that followed Him.

One woman figured out where Jesus was and found a way to get inside. She just had to talk to Jesus because she had heard that He could make demons come out of people—and her daughter had a demon inside her. Even though this woman was not Jewish, she believed Jesus would help her little girl. The woman knelt at Jesus' feet and begged Him to throw the demon out.

Jesus answered with a word picture. He said that the children in a family should eat and be filled first and that it is not right to give their food first to dogs. He was comparing Jews to children and non-Jews. In other words, God's gifts had to be given to Jews first and only later to non-Jews.

The woman humbly agreed with Jesus; however, she said that when the children were being fed, the crumbs from their food fell under the table and were eaten by

pet dogs. She was saying that she realized she did not deserve God's gift since she was not a Jew; she just wanted what the Jews did not take. She and her daughter would be glad to have whatever God gave them.

Jesus saw that the humble woman trusted Him. He told her to go home to her little girl because He had already made the demon go out of her.

When the thankful woman got home, she found that what Jesus had said was true. Her daughter was well and was in bed peacefully resting—something she probably had not been able to do while the demon was in her.

TELLING HOW TO LIVE:

God cares about Jewish people because He made promises to them back in the time of Abraham, but He also cares about people who are not Jews. They can share God's wonderful blessings too. Jews and non-Jews can have their sins forgiven when they believe that Jesus took their punishment when He died on the cross. He rewards their faith. Have you trusted Jesus as your Saviour? If you'd like to know about having eternal life, please come talk to me at the end of the class.

HELPING TO REMEMBER:

Give each child a prepared quarter sheet of paper, and have them cut out the circle. They can decorate this "cookie" with chocolate chips or candies and finish with markers. Remind them that God gives salvation and other good gifts to those who trust Him.

EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE:

"The woman...besought him that he would cast forth the devil out of her daughter" (Mark 7:26)

This woman knew that Jesus was from God. Because God created all people and all the angels, He has power over all diseases and all the fallen angels that bother people. The woman trusted in Jesus to heal her daughter, and He rewarded her faith.

CONCLUSION:

Although Jesus first declined the woman's request, his response to her tested her faith and allowed her to demonstrate this faith. In the end, there was no question about her compassion for her daughter and her faith in the mercy and power of Jesus. Jesus' ministry may have been focused on the Jews first, but his trips into Gentile territory attested to His ultimate intention that all, both Jews and Gentiles, should place their faith in Him.

Jesus clearly shows in this lesson that His heart was (and is) with all people. This gives us a wonderful example, and as modern-day disciples of Christ, we must follow our Master's lead.

PRAYER:

Dear God, we are thankful that you reward the faith of all who trust in You. Thank You for salvation and other blessings that You have given us. Help us to always believe and trust in You, in Jesus' name. Amen.

ANTICIPATING THE NEXT LESSON:

Next week's lesson is "Jesus and a Rich Man." Jesus taught that we have to give up things of the world in order to be close to Him. Study Mark 10:17-31.

LESSON SUMMARIZED BY:

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Jesus Is All Ministries

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WORD SEARCH

"Jesus and a Believing Mother" (Mark 7:24-30)

Find the following keywords from the lesson.

CHILDREN	FEET	BEGGED	TABLE
CRUMBS	JESUS	DAUGHTER	SPIRIT
BREAD	MOTHER	UNCLEAN	HELP
GREEK	DEVIL	DOGS	BELIEVE

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

WORD SEARCH SOLUTION

"Jesus and a Believing Mother" (Mark 7:24-30)

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

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