

Breaking down Barriers

Breaking down the GREAT **gentile** barrier and GREAT **faith** God gave to do it;
The Syrophoenician woman and her demon possessed daughter in Mark 7:24-30

Introduction

24 Jesus got up and went away from there to the region of Tyre. And when He had entered a house, He wanted no one to know of it; yet He could not escape notice. 25 But after hearing of Him, a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately came and fell at His feet. 26 Now the woman was a Gentile, of the Syrophoenician race. And she kept asking Him to cast the demon out of her daughter. 27 And He was saying to her, "Let the children be satisfied first, for it is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." 28 But she answered and said to Him, "Yes, Lord, but even the dogs under the table feed on the children's crumbs." 29 And He said to her, "Because of this answer go; the demon has gone out of your daughter." 30 And going back to her home, she found the child lying on the bed, the demon having left.

#1 The _____ leading to a gentile's salvation 24

1st _____ 24a Jesus got up and went away from there

2nd _____ 24b to the region of Tyre.
Matthew 15:21 Jesus went away from there, and withdrew into the district of Tyre and Sidon.

3rd _____ 24c And when He had entered a house, He wanted no one to know of it;

4th _____ 24d yet He could not escape notice.

#2 The _____ needed to save a gentile 25-26

1st She was _____ beforehand to turn to Christ 25a

1 Certainly she had heard about Christ

2 Someone she personally knew had been impacted by Christ

3 She had actually heard Christ teach God's Word and explain the Gospel of internal heart transformation
Mark 3:8 and from Jerusalem, and from Idumea, and beyond the Jordan, and the vicinity of Tyre and Sidon, a great number of people heard of all that He was doing and came to Him.
Luke 6:17 Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place; and there was a large crowd of His disciples, and a great throng of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon,

2nd She was prepared by an _____ need 25b

3rd She was prepared by an _____ view of Christ 25c

1 Thessalonians 1:9b ... how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God,

Astarte; the goddess of sexuality and fertility of women and nature.

Matthew 15:22 And a Canaanite woman from that region came out and began to cry out, saying, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is cruelly demon-possessed."

Clue #1 She cries out for MERCY

Clue #2 She calls Christ LORD

Clue #3 She calls Christ, the SON OF DAVID

4th She was prepared in spite of great _____ 26a

5th She was prepared to _____ in her request for compassion 26b

1 Thessalonians 5:17 *pray without ceasing;*

Acts 6:4 *...we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word...*

Romans 15:30 *... strive together with me in your prayers to God for me,*

6th She was prepared with a trust in Christ's _____ 26c

#3 The _____ of Christ to prove the faith of a gentile 27

John MacArthur: *Great faith does not give up; it is not deterred by obstacles, setbacks, or disappointments. Jesus therefore tested the faith of this woman by setting up a series of barriers. Some people have to struggle against strong doubts before they come to fully trust Christ for salvation. Others have to struggle against the objections and arguments of friends and family. Still others struggle to believe because they have never heard the gospel clearly presented or because they see inconsistencies in the lives of Christians they know. This woman, however, had barriers placed in her way by the Savior Himself.*

TEST 1 - SILENCE FROM GOD

Matthew 15:22b...*"Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is cruelly demon-possessed."*

23 *But He did not answer her a word.*

TEST 2 - UNCARING PEOPLE and a REBUFF

Matthew 15:23b *And His disciples came and implored Him, saying, "Send her away, because she keeps shouting at us."*

24 *But He answered and said, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."*

Matthew 15:25 *But she came and began to bow down before Him, saying, "Lord, help me!"*

TEST 3 - AN APPARENT DISMISSAL

Matthew 15:26 *And He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." Mark 7:27*

Matthew 11:28 *"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest"* John 6:37, *"The one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out"* Romans 1:16 *the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek* Matthew 28:19 *"make disciples of all the nations"; Acts 1:8 even to the remotest part of the earth*

Genesis 12:1 *the Lord said to Abram, "Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father's house, To the land which I will show you; 2 And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing; 3 And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."* Psalm 67:1 *God be gracious to us and bless us, And cause His face to shine upon us—Selah. 2 That Your way may be known on the earth, Your salvation among all nations.*

#4 The _____ faith of a gentile expressed in Christ 28

Matthew 15:28 *Then Jesus said to her, "O woman, your faith is great; it shall be done for you as you wish."*
And her daughter was healed at once.

#5 The _____ given by Christ to His own child 29-30

ONE-Never minimize the power of _____

Galatians 6:3 *For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.*

2 Corinthians 12:10 *...for when I am weak, then I am strong.*

TWO-Never miss the focus of _____

THREE-Never resist the blessing of _____

FOUR-Never minimize the power of _____

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