

Mothers on Mission

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Mother's Day, May 12th

Reflection: Jesus came to reveal the heart of God to His creation. (Heb. 1:1-3, Jn 1:14-16)

Since "God is love" (1 Jn 4:8) and Jesus came to "declare" (Jn 1:8) God's Character,

It shouldn't surprise us that genuine love motivated and characterized every aspect of his life and ministry. Unlike the Priests, pharisees and rabbis of his day (who had little time for women and children) Jesus went out of his way to minister to them!

The Fidgeting children in Mt 19:14; The Frustrated Woman in Jn 4; The Fallen woman of Jn 8.

One of Jesus' strangest encounters was with a fearful, desperate Gentile mother in Mt 15:21-28.

1. Notice her Problem(s)!

A. She was a Gentile (Idol worship culture) 22 *"a woman of Canaan came . . . , and cried unto him, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David;"*

1) She originally appealed to him as the Jewish Messiah! (But she wasn't Jewish)

B. Her daughter had been "infected" by her cultural "gods". 22b *"my daughter is grievously (kakōs: infected/diseased) vexed with a devil."* (Daimoniz'omai: Demonized!)

She recognized what most don't/won't:

1) Devils/demons are real!

2) They're after our children!

3) Our choices give them liberty/influence! (Eph. 4:26,27; 2 Tim. 2:24-26; 1 Pt 5:8)

2. Notice her Plan vs 22

A. Who: She went to Jesus! *"and cried unto him, Have mercy on me, O Lord"*

1) Mt 6:33 tells us to: *"Seek first the Kingdom of God..."*

But we naturally seek everything else first!

(Friends, Family, Doctors, Drugs, Specialists, Self medication, etc.)

B, How: She came to him with:

1) **Passion.** *"and cried"* (Kraugazō: to cry out loud)

James 5:16 *"The effectual, fervent prayer... availeth much"*

2) **Persistence.** 23-25 *"He answered her not a word... disciples said send her away..."*

Jesus told her: *"I'm ...sent ...unto lost sheep of Israel..."*

"Then she came and worshipped him saying, Lord help"

a) Remember Jesus' parable of the unjust judge? (Lk 18:1-8)

3) **With Poverty (Humility) 22** *"have mercy (elee'o:compassion) on me (?) Lord"*
(kyrios: master, owner)

a) Evidenced by her response in vs 25-27 *"Lord help me...But he ...said, It's not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs. (Kynar'ion: Pet, puppy. {not kyon Ph. 3:2}) And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table."*

3. Notice Her Provider

A. Like another desperate woman, She'd probably exhausted her other options.

Mk 5:25,26 *"a certain woman had an issue of blood 12 years. And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse"*

B. She had to overcome:

- 1) Her guilt/failure.
- 2) Her cultural taboos.
- 3) Jesus' Silence Vs 23 (Job 23:10)
- 4) The Apostle's rejection. Vs 23
- 5) Jesus testing her with the "Insulting" Parable (Vs 26)

C. Her passion, persistence & poverty finally resulted in her Provision! 28

"Then Jesus answered and said O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour."

- 1) This is why Jesus came. Ps 23:3; Isaiah 61:1-3 *"The Lord hath anointed me... to give unto them beauty for ashes... Joy for mourning... Praise for heaviness"*

Conclusion:

Can you imagine what the "Rest of her Story" Must have been like?
Would she be like the Samaritan woman who won her village to Christ? (Jn 4:39)
or just keep the good news to herself?

Application: What about you?

What's your Problem? What's your Plan? Who's your Provider?

Jer 29:11-13 *"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, not evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me and I will answer you. And ye shall seek me, and find me,*

What/Who are you really seeking? (2 Chr. 7:14; Ps 27:8; Is. 55:6) *with all your heart.*

How are you seeking it (Him)?

Persistently? Jms 4:2-4; Passionately? Jms 4:8; Humbly? James 4:6,10

14 *"And I will be found of you, saith the LORD; And turn away your captivity!"*

Is. 61:1-3 *"that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, That HE might be glorified!"*

What will you do with God's gracious gifts?

Share them with others? (Jn 4:39)



Keep them to yourself?

