

March 6

A “Dog’s” Faith

I will record Rahab [Egypt] and Babylon among those who acknowledge me. Behold, Philistia, Tyre, and also Ethiopia: “This one was born there.” Yes, of Zion it will be said, “This one and that one was born in her;” – Psalm 87:4-5

[Mark 7:24-30] From there he arose, and went away into the borders of Tyre and Sidon. He entered into a house, and didn’t want anyone to know it, but he couldn’t escape notice. For a Canaanite woman, whose little daughter had an unclean spirit, having heard of him, came and fell down at his feet. Now the woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by race. She begged him that he would cast the demon out of her daughter. But he answered her not a word.

His disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away; for she cries after us.”

But he answered, “I wasn’t sent to anyone but the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”

But she came and worshiped him, saying, “Lord, help me.” But Jesus said to her, “Let the children be filled first, for it is not appropriate to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.”

But she answered him, “Yes, Lord. Yet even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs which fall from their masters’ table.”

He said to her, “Woman, great is your faith! For this saying, go your way. Be it done to you even as you desire. The demon has gone out of your daughter.”

She went away to her house, and found the child having been laid on the bed, with the demon gone out. [Matthew 15:21-28]

1. Why did Jesus not answer at first, and then talk about dogs? Was he sent only to Israel?
2. How do you ask Jesus for help? Will you be more persistent today? About what things?
3. Jesus, my faith is small, but I want it to be great; today I urgently plead that you will...

