

5-12-19 AM

A Lesson in Faith From a Faithful Mother

Matthew 15:21-28 / Mark 7:24-30

Introduction: Jesus, for the first time steps out of Israel and goes to Gentile territory. He goes to the borders of Tyre and Sidon. It might help you to locate these two places if you will keep in mind that both of these cities were not very far from Beirut, Lebanon where they are having such difficulty in the Middle East right now.

Jesus - A "whoever will" Savior

So, the Lord Jesus steps out of Jewish territory and he moves among the Gentiles for the first time. Jesus, by this action, is illustrating the fact that He had come to be the Savior of the **world**. The Bible says: For God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten son... **Jesus is a whoever will Savior**. It doesn't matter who you are. It doesn't matter where you have come from. It doesn't matter what your nationality may be. Jesus loves you and He is willing to save you. So, Jesus came into this particular region, he went into a house, he didn't want anybody to know he was there. Yet the Scripture says ... *He could not be hid...*

He CANNOT BE HID ...

They had already heard about the Lord Jesus. So, Jesus was not unknown in this particular area. So, the word got around that Jesus was there. People began to come. The reputation of the Lord had preceded Him, so people hearing that Jesus was come, immediately began to come to Him. He could not be hid. There is a lot of truth in that statement anyhow, isn't there? The presence of Jesus can never be hid. That's true in a **church**. If Jesus is there **life** can't be hid. That's true in a **home**. If Jesus is in a **home** he cannot be hid. That's true in **an individual life**. If Jesus Christ is in your life, you cannot permanently hide that face.

This Syrophenician woman came to know Jesus & what a blessing, He could not be hid in her life.

When Robert Ingersoll the notorious skeptic, was in his heyday, two college students went to hear him lecture. As they walked down the street after the lecture, one said to the other, "Well, I guess he knocked the props out from under Christianity, didn't he?" The other said, "No, I don't think he did. Ingersoll did not explain my mother's life, and until he can explain my mother's life, I will stand by my mother's God... James S. Hewett, *Illustrations Unlimited*, Tyndale, 1972, pg. 38

I'm sure we could fill this hour with testimonies of godly mothers and examples of faith. But the passage that we read this morning carries lessons to everyone not just mothers.

Many mother that the world will never know have had a great impact

We don't even know this mother's name. By the way, everyone doesn't have to recognize your name in order for you to have an impact on this world and I know of no more influential person than a mother.

Many scholars have concluded that you cannot really understand John Wesley unless you understand his mother, Susanna Wesley.

Susannah Wesley was the mother of 19 children, including John and Charles Wesley. Through much adversity, she dedicated her life to her children.

Here are 16 rules she laid down in her home.

1. Eating between meals not allowed.
2. As children they are to be in bed by 8 p.m.
3. They are required to take medicine without complaining.
4. Subdue self-will in a child, as though working with God to save their soul.
5. To teach a child to pray as soon as he can speak.
6. Require all to be still during Family Worship.
7. Give them nothing that they cry for, and only that when asked for politely.
8. To prevent lying, punish no fault which is first confessed and repented of.
9. Never allow a sinful act to go unpunished.
10. Never punish a child twice for a single offense.
11. Comment and reward good behavior.
12. Any attempt to please, even if poorly performed, should be commended.
13. Preserve property rights, even in smallest matters.
14. Strictly observe all promises.
15. Require no daughter to work before she can read well.
16. Teach children to fear the rod.

ON DISCIPLINE

Susannah Wesley believed that for a child to grow into a self-disciplined adult, he/she must first be a parent-disciplined child.

She writes: *When the will of a child is totally subdued, and it is brought to revere and stand in awe of the parents, then a great many childish follies may be passed by. I insist on the conquering of the will of children sometimes, because this is the only strong and rational foundation of a religious education when this is thoroughly done, then a child is capable of being governed by reason and piety.*

Abraham Lincoln Stated (and I paraphrase), "All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my mother."

What a treasure a godly mother is. How effectual are the prayers of a godly mother. I have seen many mothers labor in prayer over their children.

I doubt there is a mother present here who has not done the same.

The title of my message is ... A Lesson in Faith From a Faithful Mother

This was not some bigger than life figure. It was just a mother who loved her daughter. So she came to the only person that she knew could help—Jesus Christ. I see three things about her...

I. A DESPERATE MOTHER

*Canaanite
Language - Greek
Nationality - Syrian
Hebrew*

She Came To Him In Desperation - Vs. 22-23

Her Hurt ~ all about her (anxiety/long life) did not matter - she just HURTS!
Her Hope ~ "heard of him" - MK. 7:25 ~ young daughter
"she besought him" - MK. 7:26 ~ unclean spirit

II. A DETERMINED MOTHER

She Came To Him In Adoration - Vs. 25

A Strange Refusal... from Jesus ~ because she came on Jewish ground or Religion ~
~ A Gentile has no claim on Jewish Messiah ~
A Satisfying Response... from the mother ~ Approaching Him is not
vs. 27 ~ "crumb" ~ Thru Jewish door

*But ~
with ~
Pent. ~
with ~
with ~
but instead
The Sinner's
Desk!*

III. A DELIGHTED MOTHER

She Came To Him In Humiliation

Her Anticipation ~ on the way home ~
Her Realization ~ when she got home ~

...the women give up!

