

Date: September 27, 2026
Series: Mark: The Sovereign, Suffering Servant
Title: Persistent Faith
Text: Mark 7:24-30



INTRODUCTION

Note: This passage contains one of the most surprising and unsettling statements by Jesus. At first glance, it appears that Jesus is being cold and callous toward a woman in need.

Mark 7:24-30

1) In one sense, it should NOT surprise us to find Jesus (the Messiah) out among Gentiles because, throughout the Old Testament, God expressed His desire to save and bless people from EVERY tribe, language, people group, and nation!

(Genesis 12:3; Psalm 67:1-7; Acts 11:18; Revelation 5:9-10)

2) Through this detour into Tyre and Sidon, Jesus will teach and illustrate for His Disciples the very truth He had just vigorously taught and explained regarding cleansing and defilement.

(2 Corinthians 5:17-18 and Matthew 16:18b)

3) Mark is presenting to us a picture of humility, earnest faith, and trust in Jesus. We can and should learn from this clear example of persistent faith.

(Hebrews 11:1 and Hebrews 11:6)

I. FAITH THAT COMES, PERSISTS, AND RECEIVES

Mark 7:24-26 -

1) FAITH COMES to the right place, to the right Person!

(Mark 3:7-8; 1 Kings 17; John 6:35)

Mark 7:27-28 -

2) FAITH PERSISTS to trust, rest in, and seek after God's mercy and grace!

(Acts 3:25-26; Matthew 15:28; Matthew 7:7-8)

Mark 7:29-30 -

3) FAITH RECEIVES what God freely gives—what God knows to be best for us!

(Hebrews 11:6)

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. What is significant about the region of Tyre and Sidon? Why is it surprising that Jesus went there?
2. What does Hebrews 11:1, 6 teach us about the nature and blessing of faith?
3. How does this Gentile woman show faith? How is she different from the Pharisees (Mark 7:1-23)?
4. What surprises you about Jesus' interaction with this woman?
5. How would you evaluate the condition of your faith? Do you see evidence of living, active faith?