

Miracles in Mark

Lesson 11 - Mark 7.24-30

BACKGROUND & CONTEXT:

LOCATION: Tyre & Sidon

CHARACTERS:

Jesus Syrophenician woman

PARALLEL TEXT:

Matthew 15.21-28

NOTES ON THE TEXT:

- Mark 1.14-7.23 covers Jesus' ministry in Galilee.
 - 7.24-10.52 covers Jesus' ministry in Syro-Phoenicia and northern sections of Israel with a greater Gentile influence.
 - Starts off by leaving Capernaum and heading northwest.
- Enters a house...does not want anyone to know it.
 - Can't escape notice by local people.
- Syrophenician woman approaches.
 - She was a gentile,...with a pagan background...everything seemed against her...
 - Nothing said about her husband. Widow?
 - "Little" daughter.
 - Approaches Jesus humbly, with reverence, and anxiety.
- 7.27 - Jesus statement:
 - Jesus' ministry was primarily to the Jews. See Matthew 22.1-10.
 - His work for her was an exception....at this point. Time for Gentiles would come.
- 7.28 - She was not deterred. She persevered.
 - Understood Jesus' statement was not derogatory.
- 7.29 - Jesus praises her for her faith and heals her daughter.
- 7.30 - Woman returns home & finds her daughter lying in bed & the demon gone....completely healed.

FOR A 21st CENTURY AUDIENCE:

- **The Syrophenician woman had the right attitude.**
 - She was expectant and hopeful...not prickly or hypersensitive.
- **She had a singular purpose and was resilient.**
 - Matthew 7.7-9; Luke 18.1-8
- **Here is a woman who had "little" knowledge of Jesus, but put what she had to use and was greatly blessed.**
 - What about those who have far greater privileges?

