

STUDY GUIDE

Matthew 15:21-39

“God’s Mercy Extends”

- 1) Do you find yourself concerned with being tainted by the world, culture, or sin? Why or why not?

What steps do you take to avoid being tainted by sin?

- 2) The Jews viewed the surrounding peoples around them as being unclean and that contact with them meant that they, in turn, would be unclean. In our text, Jesus left Jewish regions and entered into Gentile regions. Why is this important for understanding this passage?

- 3) What strikes you most about Jesus’ interaction with the Canaanite woman?

How is Jesus using this as a teaching moment for his disciples?

- 4) As a Canaanite and as a woman, she would have been seen as unclean by Jews. How does Jesus respond to her pleas for mercy and help?

How does the “dogs and crumbs” interaction show Jesus’ mercy and the Canaanite woman’s hopeful humility?

- 5) Like this Gentile Canaanite woman, what unlikely converts has God placed around you?

How have you doubted God’s power and mercy in saving such people?

- 6) How does the truth that we’re all dirty and unclean people without Jesus spur us on to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with others?

How might we begin to share the good news with others? Share ways you have had gospel-centered conversations with others.

- 7) How can we be an encouragement to each other in bringing the good news to the lost?

*Then Jesus answered her, O woman, great is your faith!
Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.*

- Matthew 15:28