# LESSON 9 APRIL 28, 2023

**SUBJECT: Faith of a Canaanite DEVOTIONAL READING: Psalm 61:1-8**

**BACKGROUND: Matthew 15:21-28 LESSON: Matthew 15:21-28**

MEMORY VERSE: Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment. Matthew 15:28 NIV

**LESSON AIM: To show how to exercise humility, persistence, and faith in seeking divine favor.**

## INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDY OUTLINE

 **I. A FAITHFUL PETITION: MATTHEW 15:21-22**

1. **Where does this week’s lesson take place? Locate on a New Testament map. Was this region Jewish or Gentile? Matthew 15:21**



1. **The region in which these cities were located had a long history of paganism and opposition to the Jews. How had the people of this region previously affected the Israelites? Judges 10:6**
2. **Why do you think Jesus went to this region?**
3. **Who approached Jesus in the region of Tyre and Sidon? What was the nationality of this person? Matthew 15:22a (Mark 7:26)**
4. **How did this Canaanite woman address Jesus? Matthew 15:22b**
5. **What plea did this Canaanite woman make to Jesus? Matthew 15:22b**
6. **Upon whose behalf did this Canaanite woman go to Jesus? What was the condition of this person? Matthew 15:22c**
7. **How do you think this Gentile woman knew of Jesus and His power since most of His ministry was in Jewish regions? Matthew 4:23-25**

**II. A FAITHFUL PERSISTENCE: MATTHEW 15:23-28**

1. **What was Jesus initial response to the Gentile woman? Why do you think so? Matthew 15:23a**
2. **How did Jesus’ disciples want Him to respond to the Gentile woman? Why? Matthew 15:23b**
3. **What could the woman have done because of Jesus’ silence and the disciples’ annoyance?**
4. **What did Jesus explain to the Gentile woman about His mission? Matthew 15:24**
5. **Why do you think Jesus was initially sent to the Jews as His priority and focus? Consider the following:**
6. **Jews were God’s historic chosen people through the Abrahamic Covenant. (Genesis 12:1-3; 17:1-7)**
7. **Jesus was born a Jew. (Luke 1:26-35; John 1:9-14; Romans 1:3)**
8. **Jesus came to fulfill the law and the prophets given to the Jews. (Matthew 5:17; Galatians 4:4-5)**
9. **Jesus came to gather the lost sheep of Israel. (Matthew 15:24)**
10. **Jesus came to prepare the Jews to carry His message of salvation to everyone. (Matthew 28:16-20)**
11. **Were the Jews Jesus saved to continue their ministry only to other Jews? Matthew 28:19-20**
12. **How did the woman respond to Jesus’ initial silence and His first comment? What should this teach us? Matthew 15:25 (Read in several Biblical Versions)**
13. **What was Jesus’ second comment to the Gentile woman? What do you think Jesus meant? Matthew 15:26**
14. **What do you think the terms “children”, “dog” and “bread” refer to in Matthew 15:26?**
15. **Do you think Jesus was degrading the woman with His remarks in Matthew 15:26? Why or why not?**
16. **How did the Gentile woman respond to Jesus’ seemingly discouraging remark? What did the woman desire? What does this tell us about the woman? Matthew 15:27**
17. **What was Jesus trying to draw out of the Gentile woman? Did He reach the end result? Matthew 15:28ab**
18. **What was the result of the Gentile woman’s faith and persistence? Matthew 15:28c**
19. **Why do you think the woman did not attempt to argue with Jesus? What was her only concern? Matthew 15:22**
20. **How did Jesus praise the Canaanite woman? Matthew 15:28a**
21. **How can the Canaanite woman’s encounter with Jesus be misunderstood?**
22. **What should we do when our prayer life or faith seem to be weak? Luke 11:1; 17:5**

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| **v. 11:1** |  |  | **v. 17:5** |  |

##### SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION

1. **What does persistence in prayer and faith indicate?**
2. **How was the Canaanite woman’s faith tested?**