**MIRACLES: THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF JESUS—STUDY OF MATTHEW**

**LESSON TEN —“FROM DESPERATION TO FAITH” MATTHEW 15:21-29; MARK 7:24-30**

**CONTEXT OF THE BOOK OF MATTHEW CHAPTERS 15**

The author is Matthew. It is placed first of the four [New Testament](https://www.britannica.com/topic/New-Testament) [Gospels](https://www.britannica.com/topic/Gospel-New-Testament) (narratives recounting the life and death of [Jesus Christ](https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jesus)) and, but it was not the first to be written. Most, believe that Mark was first (late 60’s); then Matthew second (65-70); Luke (80’s); then John (110ad). The Gospels of Matthew, [Mark](https://www.britannica.com/topic/Gospel-According-to-Mark), and [Luke](https://www.britannica.com/topic/Gospel-According-to-Luke), called [Synoptic Gospels](https://www.britannica.com/topic/Synoptic-Gospels), means those presenting a a common view). Again, we say that Matthew’s Gospel was written in Greek. **In today’s lesson, we learn that as believers, we should always practice humility.**

**Quick Read: *A woman loved her daughter more than her own life. She practiced humility, knowing that a crumb of grace was enough. Great faith does not give up. [93].***

### **A. A CRY FOR MERCY [MATTHEW 15:21-22] (The Canaanite Woman’s Faith) 21**Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. **22**Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “***Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.”***

### **MARK 7:24-30 (The Syro-phoenician Woman’s Faith) 24**From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, **25**but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet.

### **26**Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syro-phoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. **27**He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” **28**But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” **29**Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” **30**So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

### **B. SILENCE, REJECTION, INSULT [MATTHEW 15:23-26**  **23**But He did not answer her at all. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” **24**He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” **25**But she came and knelt before Him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ***26He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.”***

### **C. A HUMBLE AND PERSISTENT FAITH [MATTHEW 15:27-28]”  27**She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” **28*Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.***

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