

# JESUS HEALS A WOMAN'S DAUGHTER

One day, a woman from a foreign country met Jesus. "Lord," she said, "Please heal my daughter." Jesus did not answer her at first. Then he said, "My work is for the people of the country, Israel, not Canaan. I was sent only to the people of Israel."

She knelt before him and begged him, "Lord, help me." Jesus said, "It is not fair to give to others what is meant for the children of Israel. It would be like giving the children's bread to the dogs."

The woman said, "Yes, Lord, but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from the master's table."

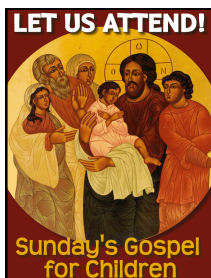
Then Jesus said, "O woman, you have great faith. Be it done as you desire." Her daughter was healed at that hour.



Icon courtesy of Iconographics ([www.theologic.com](http://www.theologic.com))

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. A woman went to see Jesus. What did the woman ask Jesus to do?
2. The disciples wanted Jesus to send her away. Why?
3. Jesus said that he was sent to the people of Israel, and this woman was not from Israel.
4. The woman asked Jesus again, and again. Did Jesus finally heal her daughter?



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# ·: JESUS AND THE CANAANITE WOMAN ·:

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**One day**, a woman from Canaan met Jesus. She begged Jesus to have mercy on her. She wanted Him to heal her daughter. Her daughter was being hurt by a demon. (Demons are bad spirits that try to keep people away from God.) Jesus did not answer the woman.

After a while, Jesus' disciples begged Him to send the woman away. They did not like that she was bothering them. Jesus said, "I was only sent to help Israelites, not Canaanites.

The woman heard what Jesus said and knelt down in front of Him. She asked again, "Lord, help me."

Jesus said, "It would not be fair for me to do a miracle for a Canaanite when I am supposed to be helping Israelites. That would be like taking bread away from hungry children and feeding it to dogs."

The woman said, "That is true. But even dogs get to eat crumbs that fall off their master's table."

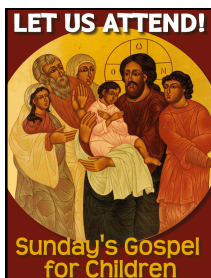
When Jesus heard this woman's answer, He told her, "You have very great faith! Let it be just as you wish." That very hour, the woman's daughter was healed.



Icon courtesy of Iconographics ([www.theologic.com](http://www.theologic.com))

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What did the woman want Jesus to do?
2. Why did Jesus' disciples want to send the woman away?
3. Jesus told the woman that He was supposed to help Israelites, not Canaanites like her. But she kept asking. Did Jesus finally heal her daughter?
4. What about you? Do you ask Jesus for help? What will you ask Him to help you with today?



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## JESUS HEALS A WOMAN'S DAUGHTER

**At that time**, Jesus went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon." But Jesus did not answer her a word.

And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying after us." Jesus answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

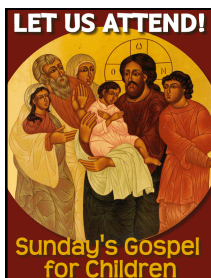
But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." And he answered, "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."

Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed at that very hour.



### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What does Jesus say to the woman when she kneels before him and says, "Lord help me?"
2. What do you think Jesus means by the children's "bread"?
3. Who are the children?
4. Who are the dogs?
5. How does the woman respond to Jesus' statement about throwing bread to the dogs?
6. How does her response show her great faith?
7. Have you ever persistently asked for something? What was it?



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Characters: Narrator, Woman, Disciples, Jesus

Narrator: At that time, Jesus went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried,

Woman: Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon.

Narrator: But Jesus did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying,

Disciples: Send her away, for she is crying after us.

Narrator: Jesus answered,

Jesus: I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

Narrator: But she came and knelt before him, saying,

Woman: Lord, help me.

Narrator: And he answered,

Jesus: It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs.

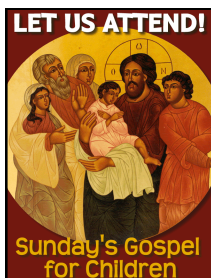
Narrator: She said,

Woman: Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.

Narrator: Then Jesus answered her,

Jesus: O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.

Narrator: And her daughter was healed at that very hour.



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But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." And he answered, "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet



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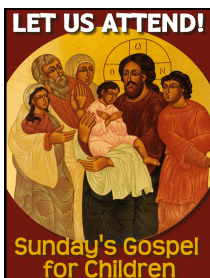
even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."

Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your

faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed at that very hour.

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Does Jesus answer the Canaanite woman when she calls to him?
2. What do you think of that?
3. What reason does he give for ignoring her?
4. What do you think about that? How would you feel if someone talked to you that way?
5. How does the woman respond to Jesus calling her a dog?
6. What is she saying about herself? About Jesus?
7. What do you like about her response? What do you dislike?



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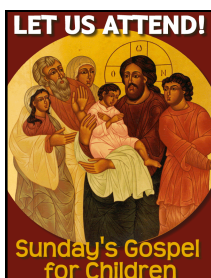
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## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What does Jesus say to the woman when she kneels before him and says "Lord help me?"
2. What do you think the children's food is?
3. Who are the children?
4. Who are the dogs?
5. How does the woman respond?
6. What do you think she means by that?
7. What parts of this Gospel bother you? Why? What parts do you like? Why?



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