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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • This passage is located in your pew bible on page 13 in the NT section.

**M**y God, my God, why have you abandoned me? Why are you so far away when I groan for help? <sup>2</sup> Every day I call to you, my God, but you do not answer. Every night I lift my voice, but I find no relief.

- Psalm 22:1-2, NLT



## Study Section

### Healing the Canaanite Woman's Daughter

#### 1. The Woman

**Matthew 15:21-22, NRSV** -<sup>21</sup> Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup> 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."

- A Woman from Canaan (Fierce enemies of the Israelites)
- A Woman facing an impossible situation (A demon possessed child)

**"No one is beyond the reach of God's love."**

#### 2. Her Request

**Matthew 15:22, NLT** -<sup>22</sup> A Gentile woman who lived there came to him, pleading, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! For my daughter is possessed by a demon that torments her severely."

- A cry for help
- A cry for mercy

**"Our desperation drives us to Jesus."**

#### 3. Her Difficulties

**Matthew 15:23-27, NLT** -<sup>23</sup> But Jesus gave her no reply, not even a word. Then his disciples urged him to send her away. "Tell her to go away," they said. "She is bothering us with all her begging." <sup>24</sup> Then Jesus said to the woman, "I was sent only to help God's lost sheep—the people of Israel." <sup>25</sup> But she came and worshiped him, pleading again, "Lord, help me!" <sup>26</sup> Jesus responded, "It isn't right to take food from the children and throw it to the dogs." <sup>27</sup> She replied, "That's true, Lord, but even dogs are allowed to eat the scraps that fall beneath their masters' table."

- The silence of Jesus
- The conduct of the disciples
- The unworthiness of the woman

**"God's silence does not always mean God's refusal."**

#### 4. Her Appeal

**Matthew 15:25-27, NASB95** -<sup>25</sup> But she came and began to bow down before Him, saying, "Lord, help me!"

- The appeal of a desperate spirit before Jesus
- The appeal was to Jesus—*alone!*

**"When God is silent, don't let 'feelings' rule your heart."**

#### A Prayer for Everybody

A Sermon by Charles Spurgeon

**Lord** means we recognize who Jesus really is.

**Help** means we need what only Jesus can give.

**Me** means we admit our helpless condition.

#### 5. Her "Great Faith"

**Matthew 15:28, NLT** -<sup>28</sup> "Dear woman," Jesus said to her, "your faith is great\*. Your request is granted." And her daughter was instantly healed.

\* "Great" gives us our word "mega."

**"Resolve to have 'mega faith' in Christ."**

**Here is the Point** ➔

When God is seemingly silent, He may be working, not to destroy, but to strengthen your faith. Resolve to have "mega faith." Keep persisting in prayer with total dependency on God.