

On Matthew 15 MERCY.

• 15:23-28 *Jesus then left Galilee and went north to the region of Tyre and Sidon. A Gentile woman who lived there came to him, pleading, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! For my daughter has a demon in her and it severely tormenting her."*

• The Gentile Woman received mercy. We need mercy, the undeserved kindness of the Lord. The Lord wants to show mercy to us because that is what He is like.

• Psalm 145:8,9,15,16 *"The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to get angry, full of unfailing love. The Lord is good to everyone. He showers compassion on all His creation."*

• **Have Mercy** Mercy is undeserved kindness and help. The person receiving mercy may have harmed us or offended us. They may deserve punishment. They may be undeserving. The only compulsion in mercy is a "merciful heart." A heart that is too soft to cause harm or break someone's heart

• Matthew 9:36 *"Jesus felt great pity for the crowds that came, because their problems were so great and they didn't know where to go for help."*

• **Apparent but not real rejection.**

• *Jesus said to the woman, "I was sent only to help the people of Israel—God's lost sheep—not the Gentiles." But she came and worshiped him and pleaded again, "Lord help me!" He replied, "It isn't right to take food from the children and throw it to the dogs."*

• The Lord deals with the judgments and self judgments that causes us to disqualify ourselves from receiving mercy. The religious and others may tell us we do not deserve. The Lord speaks the prejudice of the Jews but encourages her. Though he calls her a dog. The Greek word used is the little pet that sleeps on the master's bed and gets the crumbs from under the table.

• **She worshiped Him.**

"Yes Lord," she replied, "but even dogs are permitted to eat crumbs that fall beneath their master's table." Jesus said to her, "your faith is great. Your request is granted." And her daughter was instantly healed.

• Those who worship God connect with Him.

They develop a pure heart that "knows his real voice"—who understand what he saying—

Who are confident that the Lord is working circumstances around to answer their need.

God is good to those whose hearts are pure." Psalm 73:1 (See also Titus 3:3-7)