

A Woman's Faith

(S. Matthew 15:21–28)

Jesus left that place and went off to the territory near the cities of Tyre and Sidon. A Canaanite woman who lived in that region came to him. “Son of David!” she cried out. “Have mercy on me, sir! My daughter has a demon and is in a terrible condition.” But Jesus did not say a word to her. His disciples came to him and begged him, “Send her away! She is following us and making all this noise!”

Then Jesus replied, “I have been sent only to the lost sheep of the people of Israel.” At this the woman came and fell at his feet. “Help me, sir!” she said. Jesus answered, “It isn't right to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.”

“That's true, sir,” she answered, “but even the dogs eat the leftovers that fall from their masters' table.” So Jesus answered her, “You are a woman of great faith! What you want will be done for you.” And at that very moment her daughter was healed.



Image: www.ocaarm.org

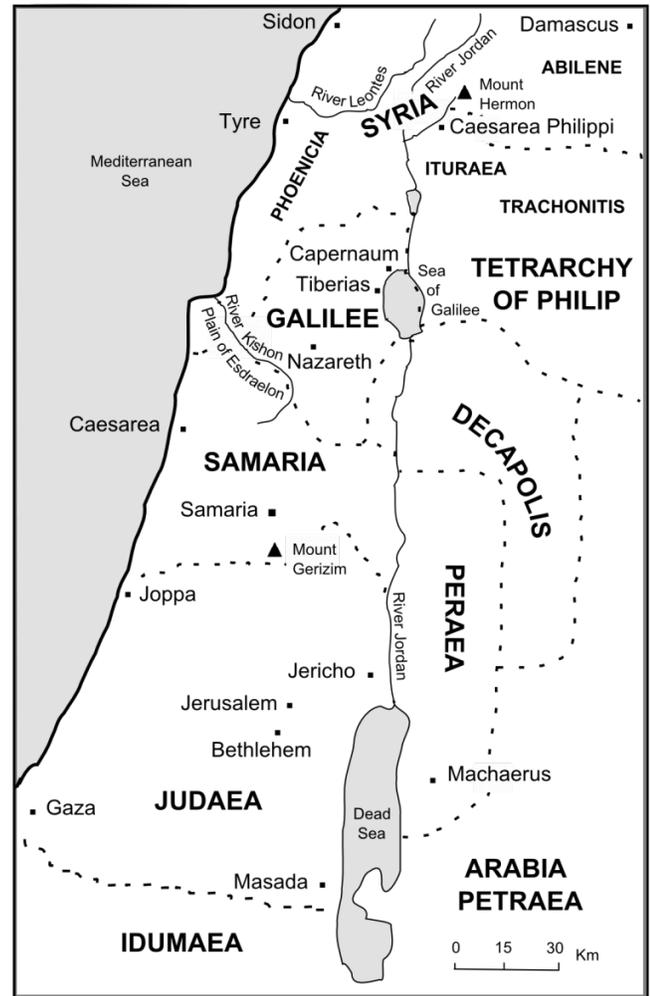


Collect for the Second Sunday in Lent

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Understanding the Story:

1. Where does the story take place? Find and circle the area on the map.
2. Where did Jesus live before he began his ministry? Find and circle the city on the map (*Hint: not the city where he was born*).
3. The Jews and the Canaanites were enemies but Jesus still helped the Canaanite woman. What does that teach us about Jesus?



4. When we come to Jesus for help, should we be like the Canaanite woman? How and why?



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J X S M G C A N A A N I T E V W P C
Q A W H B E G H U V B I B L E O L I
T R I V C Y D D C O R X S P R M M V
S B S V F I A A M A T T H E W A C V
H N R A F T U V Q U D D X G V N S N
E M A A A Y G I K F Q Y I I O M D A
E A E S I R H D I S C I P L E S E O
P H L L T E T Z D D O A Y M Z M M L
Z R E Z H E E J E S U S C P K N O E
Z I X L X D R P N P H E S I D O N N
T D K F P X K M I K A Y D B C O S T
M G O S P E L E B G O D H E A L K A

Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

BEG

BIBLE

CANAANITE

DAUGHTER

DAVID

DEMON

DISCIPLES

FAITH

GOD

GOSPEL

HEAL

HELP

ISRAEL

JESUS

LENT

MATTHEW

SHEEP

SIDON

TYRE

WOMAN

 How many of these words appear in today's reading from St Matthew's Gospel? Read the passage again and underline any words you recognise from the word search!