

Sermon Notes – (Aug 20) – “Jesus Listens, Speaks to and Helps Souls in Need”

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 and Matthew 15:21-28

I. The “mystery” of Jesus’ discussion with the Canaanite woman.

- Always dangerous to tell Jesus He did it wrong (though we are tempted to do this
- What is going on with Jesus’ discussion with the woman? _____ all the time).
 - Disrespect?
 - Language misunderstanding? (Small dog = “_____”)
 - Bringing out her faith?
- Jesus’ own words show His concern to _____ His mission.

II. What is the Old Testament promise of God to help? (Isaiah 56:1, 6-8)

- “Keep _____, and do _____,

for soon my salvation will come and my _____ will be revealed.”

- “The foreigners who _____ to the LORD, to minister to him, to

_____ the name of the LORD, and to be His servants, everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, and holds fast my covenant— 7 these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.” 8 The Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares, “I will gather yet others to him besides those already gathered.”

III. Some Points from the Text

- A Canaanite – Historically, looked to idols and worshipped them.
 - But this woman looked to Jesus, called on Him and worshipped Him
- A woman, a mother – whose daughter oppressed – “controlled” by a demon
 - God’s promise to the first woman, that her children were *not* to be controlled by the evil one (Genesis 3:16)
 - A mother serving the daughter the LORD had given her (not about herself)
- She was not looking to deter Jesus from His mission for the Children of Israel
 - Not looking to tell Jesus how to run the show (like the Pharisees and others)
- She was looking for the LORD God’s mercy and promise for all peoples
- Jesus proclaims her faith is great (not small or doubting like the disciples)

What might this look like?

- We do not tell Jesus what to do, but talk to Him about our problem.
- We learn from God’s Word about God’s mercy and love and power.
- We have faith that God’s mercy, love and power are true. Not doubting.
- We worship and serve Him.
- We tell Him our problems again and again. He is our heavenly Father.
- We do the tasks for others He has given us.
- We receive His mercy, love and power in our lives – as He designs.