

Home Group Notes 8

Mark 7:24-30 Impressive response

Introduction

How important is it for you to get away once in a while?
What do you do when you get away?

1. **Read v.24** Where did Jesus go? Was it near or far? Was it home from home or foreign?
2. Why would Jesus not have wanted anyone to know he was there? Was he paranoid or had his recent experience taught him something?
3. How busy had Jesus been in recent weeks? How badly do you think he needed a break?
4. **Read vv.25-26** What is the first thing we are told about the woman? What do you understand about her from her actions?
5. Would it have been unusual to find a Gentile woman of Syrophenician origin in Tyre? Is this important for us to know?
6. What is your understanding of demons? Do you think this woman was 'primitive' because she used the term? Do you think Jesus was ignorant? Or was he saying one thing while thinking another and so pandering to the ignorance of his generation when he used the term? Or do you think, as they said, that there is some being which can be called a demon?
7. How keen was the woman for her daughter to be rid of the demon?

8. **Read vv.27-28** Do you ever hear a conversation and think that even though it is in English, it might as well be in a foreign language?
9. To understand a passage, the key is often in the context. The context for this conversation is v.26a. Who are the children? Who are the dogs?
10. Are you surprised that Jesus could partake in such non-politically correct banter? Do you enjoy banter?
11. What is the point which Jesus is making, and which the woman understands?
12. Why do you think Jesus was so impressed with the woman's response?
13. How easily could you respond like that to Jesus? And to other people?
14. Will you?

*Pray for our attitude to be more of keen faith,
vulnerability in conversation, humility and perseverance
Pray that we will have a fuller understanding of Jesus and
his personality and priorities (which is not just pre-
conditioned by our own times and preferences)
Pray for those amongst us who are exhausted and needy
because of our work and care*