

OVERFLOWING GRACE



Mark 7:24-30
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I. **AN OUTSIDER'S PLEA (vs.24-26)**

Jesus moves out to Tyre and Sidon, a predominantly Gentile area. And He is found by a woman who is "***a Gentile, a Syrophenician by birth***". She was considered an outsider. And she has a serious problem: A daughter who is demon-possessed. She humbly comes to Jesus and pleads on behalf of her daughter.

II. **AN ISSUE OF PRIORITY (vs.27)**

Why does Jesus give this woman such an apparently harsh answer?

First, Jesus is drawing her out: Testing her motives and spurring her to persevere in prayer.

Second, "dog" isn't about insulting. A metaphor to highlight she is not an Israelite, not a member of the Old Testament people of God. God had promised to bless Israel first (Genesis 12:1-3).

III. **AN INSIDER'S ANSWER (vs.28-30)**

The woman understood that God was going to bless the Israelites. But there was more than enough for the "dogs" (the Gentiles) as well.

And her story shows that by Faith the Gentiles were included in the People of God. It was not a matter of externals but of our heart-disposition toward Jesus.