

Right in Front of You: The Gospel of Mark

A study for Community Groups to use the week of May 24th

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Series Guide** to complete foundational questions in the book for week 5 using the scripture below.

Week 15: Mark 7:24-37

Overview

Mark doesn't just tell us what Jesus did; he shows us who Jesus is in a way that forces us to rethink the world we're living in and the stories we're being sold every day.

"The woman's answer had revealed a quick wit and humility, but it was her persistent faith that Jesus rewarded (cf. Matt. 15:28). "In contrast to the tradition of the elders Jesus [authoritatively] embraces the alienated of the Mosaic and rabbinic tradition: a leper (1:40-45), tax collectors and sinners (2:13-17), and even unclean Gentiles, including a Syrophenician woman (7:24-30)." The woman's departure for home without Jesus also shows her faith. This is the only instance of Jesus healing from a distance without a vocal command that Mark recorded. As such, it demonstrates the great power of Jesus working for this woman's need. The healing was instantaneous, as usual. Perhaps one of the disciples accompanied the woman and reported what Mark wrote in verse 30."

Questions

*In the Series Guide you will find basic questions we want all to use as they begin to look at the passage. Questions such as; *Who have you had the opportunity to BLESS this week? What does this passage reveal about God? About people? About the life He has planned for us?* These additional questions relate to the passage specifically for your benefit.

- We see in Mark 7, Jesus speaks truth to the Syrophenician woman, but He does it in a way that draws her closer instead of pushing her away. She experiences both honesty and compassion from Him. Why is it hard to balance grace and truth well with people? Which side do you naturally lean toward more, truth without grace, or grace without truth, and how does Jesus model something better here?
- The woman responds to Jesus with humility, persistence, and trust. Instead of becoming offended or walking away, she presses closer to Him. What do you notice about the way this woman approaches Jesus? How is her posture different from the Pharisees or even the disciples earlier in Mark 7? What can we learn from her response?
- After Jesus heals the deaf man, the crowd responds with amazement: "He has done everything well" (v.37). What tends to steal your awe or wonder of Jesus in everyday life? How would your relationships or conversations look different if people could genuinely see wonder, compassion, and hope overflowing from you?