



January 1, 2023

Kevin Sneed

Mark 7:24-30

1. A New Year gets us thinking about new possibilities, hopes, and dreams. What comes to mind when you think about your relationship with God and His effect on your life this New Year?
2. Read verses 24-26. The religious culture of Jesus' day taught that everything about this Syrophenician woman was unclean and disqualifying, yet she approached Jesus. What does this tell us about the heart of Jesus and the gospel?
3. The woman was desperate. She ran to Jesus and begged him to heal her daughter. Why is running to Jesus out of desperation the healthiest response? What things do we tend to run to in our own desperation instead of Jesus?
4. The woman was persistent. Why do you think Mark wanted us to know that the woman "continually begged" Jesus to help her and her daughter?
5. Read verses 27-28. Kevin taught us the important distinctions, meaning, and usage of dog/puppy and children of Israel/little child. What was the woman really saying to Jesus in her answer?
6. Read verses 29-30. Why was Jesus impressed with her answer?
7. The woman was humble. Some reject Jesus due to a superiority complex. Others reject Jesus due to an inferiority complex. What does healthy humility look like and why does God love humility?

8. What can you learn personally from the woman's desperation, persistence, and humility? How might this story affect your response to the gospel and following Jesus in 2023?

"We come to Jesus, not on the basis of our own worthiness, but on the basis of His." Kevin Sneed