



January 28, 2024  
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How Outsiders Become Insiders - Mark 7:24-37

### A Woman Argues With Jesus And Wins

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus left Galilee and went north to the region of Tyre. He didn't want anyone to know which house he was staying in, but he couldn't keep it a secret. <sup>25</sup>Right away a woman who had heard about him came and fell at his feet. Her little girl was possessed by an evil spirit, <sup>26</sup>and she begged him to cast out the demon from her daughter. Since she was a Gentile, born in Syrian Phoenicia, <sup>27</sup>Jesus told her, 'First I should feed the children—my own family, the Jews. It isn't right to take food from the children and throw it to the dogs.' <sup>28</sup>She replied, 'That's true, Lord, but even the dogs under the table are allowed to eat the scraps from the children's plates.' <sup>29</sup>'Good answer!' he said. 'Now go home, for the demon has left your daughter.' <sup>30</sup>And when she arrived home, she found her little girl lying quietly in bed, and the demon was gone.

### What Did This Woman Have That Caused Jesus To Say "Yes"?

\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
Hebrews 11:6 & James 4:6

### People Typically Approach God In One Of Two Ways

\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_  
Luke 18:9-14

**Memory Verses**  
"Without faith it is impossible to please God."  
Hebrews 11:6a  
  
"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."  
James 4:6b

### What's Wrong With This Miracle?

<sup>31</sup>Jesus left Tyre and went up to Sidon before going back to the Sea of Galilee and the region of the Ten Towns. <sup>32</sup>A deaf man with a speech impediment was brought to him, and the people begged Jesus to lay his hands on the man to heal him. <sup>33</sup>Jesus led him away from the crowd so they could be alone. He put his fingers into the man's ears. Then, spitting on his own fingers, he touched the man's tongue. <sup>34</sup>Looking up to heaven, he sighed and said, "Ephphatha," which means, "Be opened!" <sup>35</sup>Instantly the man could hear perfectly, and his tongue was freed so he could speak plainly! <sup>36</sup>Jesus told the crowd not to tell anyone, but the more he told them not to, the more they spread the news. <sup>37</sup>They were completely amazed and said again and again, 'Everything he does is wonderful. He even makes the deaf to hear and gives speech to those who cannot speak.'

Jesus Healed The \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus Healed The \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus Told Them \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

**MY NEXT STEP IS TO . . .**

- Stop trusting in my own achievement, and in faith and humility place my trust in the finished work of Jesus Christ and begin to follow Him for the first time today
- Memorize Hebrews 11:6a & James 4:6b
- Take a step out of my comfort zone and sign up to join a Life group
- Get the most out of this weekend's teaching by attending my Life group



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### What Did This Woman Have That Caused Jesus To Say "Yes"?

**Faith & Humility**

Hebrews 11:6 & James 4:6

### People Typically Approach God In One Of Two Ways

**Human Achievement**

or

**Divine Accomplishment**

Luke 18:9-14

### Memory Verses

"Without faith it is impossible to please God."

Hebrews 11:6a

"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

James 4:6b

### What's Wrong With This Miracle?

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Jesus Healed The **Wrong Guy**

Jesus Healed The **Wrong Way**

Jesus Told Them **Not To Tell**

### MY NEXT STEP IS TO . . .

- Stop trusting in my own achievement, and in faith and humility place my trust in the finished work of Jesus Christ and begin to follow Him for the first time today
- Memorize Hebrews 11:6a & James 4:6b
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## Discussion Questions - Week #1

# LIFE GROUPS

### Welcome to the Winter Quarter of Life Groups!

This week we kick off our Winter Life Group Quarter. Your first meeting will include extended time for you to get to know the others in your group as well as time to discuss the Life Group Covenant. To prepare for your first meeting, take some time to focus on the questions below. Please don't feel like you need to answer all the questions!!! Have a great first meeting!

#### GETTING TO KNOW YOU

One of the great parts of being in a Life Group is getting to know others better. Take a moment to jot down your answers to the questions below and be ready to share with your group.

✍ Tell us about yourself...

- What are some small things that make your day better?
- What is your favorite road trip snack?
- What's the first career you dreamed of having as a kid?

✍ As we start the new year, what are one or two things you're looking forward to in 2024?

#### QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the sermon this weekend, "How Outsiders Become Insiders", was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Do you plan on taking any practical steps this week in response to the message?

#### DIGGING DEEPER

1. In this weekend's message, we heard the story of an outsider with great faith. In Matthew 8:5-13, we're introduced to another outsider who demonstrates great faith. Read the passage together. What made this centurion the "wrong guy" to receive a miracle?

What do you think amazed Jesus about the centurion's faith?

What lesson might God intend to teach us by including this story in Matthew's gospel?

If Jesus were to look at your faith, what do you think his response would be?

What is one step you could take this week to grow in faith?

2. What would you say if someone asked you to define humility in your own words?

Read Philippians 2:1-11. What is the connection between Paul's encouragement in verses 1-5 and Christ's example in verses 6-11?

Why do you think humility is an essential Christian virtue?

How might your relationships change if you put Paul's encouragement into practice more regularly?

What aspects of Jesus' mindset would you like to exercise this week?

#### FOR PRACTICE

Ephesians 2:8 says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God." Faith is a gift, but one of the primary ways we grow our faith is through regular engagement with God's Word. That means hearing the Word God proclaimed through preaching, reading and studying the Word on our own, and memorizing the Word. Look through the list and evaluate yourself. "Which of these do I need to make a more consistent habit in my life?" and then get going! If you're unsure where to begin reading or how to study the Word, ask your Life Group leader or one of our staff!

#### SHARE IT

Is there anything you heard or learned in the weekend message or Life Group this week that you want to share with someone you know?

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for ERBC and the churches in the Eagle Rock area to embrace our calling to reach our community with the good news of the gospel. Pray for passionate witnesses, open doors to share, and receptive hearts and minds in those to whom we witness.