



August 16 2020 // Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time // Lectionary: 118 // Gospel MT 15:21-28

At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon." But Jesus did not say a word in answer to her. Jesus' disciples came and asked him, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us." He said in reply, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, "Lord, help me." He said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour.

Spiritual Reflection: I believe today's Gospel is one of those times in which a teacher teaches through actions that show the common way of thinking is not the smartest way of thinking. Jesus begins this lesson by acting like his disciples who kept telling Him to get rid of her. He ends up at the end of the lesson showing the disciples that this person that they wanted to dismiss ended up having more faith than they did. Let us be a place where people feel that they can belong so that they can come to believe in God and learn to behave the way He desires us too.

Spiritual Questions

1. Who are people that you wish to dismiss from Church?
2. How can you love them better?
3. What are your biases? How do you overcome them?
4. How is Christian way of treating people different from the worldly way?
5. What does Belong-Believe-Behave mean too you?