

Scripture: God's Law (Ex. 20) – Matthew 15:21-39

Children's Sermon

Singing: 60:1-3 – 140:1 – 71:1, 4, 5 – 233:1-3 – 432:3-4

JESUS TESTING A BELIEVING SEEKER

I. His strange actions II. His good purpose

I. Jesus testing a seeker by His strange actions

A. The mother's case is extremely hard: *a daughter filled with a devil* (vs. 22)

1. Her daughter's condition is the picture of our need

B. She came to Jesus because she believed what she heard about Him

1. To believe that Jesus is able and willing to help you is *good* but not *saving!*

C. She met a different Jesus than she might have expected: 23-26

1. His no-reaction is so different (23): see Matt. 8:2-3; 6-7; 13:25-27; 31-39

2. His answer to the disciples' request is worse than no answer (24)

3 His answer on her humble plea at His feet must end all her hope (26)

D. Her final response to Jesus' words (27)

1. She did not *object* that she had no rights

2. She did *confess* Him as Lord

3. She did up in her *humble plea*

II. JESUS' PURPOSES IN TESTING THE SEEKING SINNER

A. Why did Jesus put this mother through this test?

1. to teach His disciples how not to be a pastor – friend (Matt. 15:14)

2. to strengthen, deepen and purify this mother's faith in Him (vs. 28)

a. what was her *great faith?*

3. to instruct you are seeking Jesus

a. count on *an uphill battle* when you get serious about seeking Jesus

- who will oppose you?

- what if Jesus treats you like her?

B. What do we take along from this teaching of Jesus and the woman?

1. Trust His promises even though His actions or answers seem no match

a. Ps. 119:81: *My soul fainteth for thy salvation: but I hope in Thy Word*

2. Do not get sidetracked about 'Am I elect?' (vs. 24)

3. Let not your sense of unworthiness keep you from His feet