

12 February 2017: Preached by Rev Quek Suan Yew

Topic: Life of Christ - We are Dogs!

Scripture text: Mark 7:24-30

1. Jesus' ministry mainly centered on Israel to reach to the Jews. They were the privileged people who had received the laws of God and their culture is to show forth the ways of God. Yet sadly the people of God, the Jews, rejected Jesus as their Messiah when He came on earth to minister to them.
2. On this rare occasion recorded in Mark 7, Jesus ministered in a Gentile area and many people were there. A Gentile woman came to Jesus pleading Him to heal her daughter who was demon possessed. She did not see Jesus before nor seen His miracles and only had heard of Him.
3. This Gentile woman demonstrated great faith to come to seek Jesus for help. She was desperate and pleaded for mercy from Jesus as no one could heal her daughter. People will not come to Jesus when they think this world can fulfill their needs. They think they are fine but in reality they are not.
4. Jesus' response was to test the Gentile woman of her faith by saying the bread is to be given to the Jews and not to dogs whom the Jews would regard the Gentiles as unclean and outcast. It was true that the Gospel must first go to the Jews then the Gentiles.
5. The woman's response was one of humility and true faith and she did not complaint at what Jesus said to her. She agreed with the words of Jesus and humbly pleaded for the crumbs that would fall from the children's table so she could have it. The Lord heard her plead and healed her daughter immediately.