

# Not Without Reason

Rachael Martin 4,1,2016

In reading my devotions, I came across this scripture in **Matthew 15:21-28** - that talks about Jesus traveling and teaching. He had gone from Galilee to Tyre and Sidon where He was immediately met by a woman who was crying out for Jesus to have mercy on her and heal her daughter who was tormented by a demon.

Jesus didn't respond and at first, I thought to myself, Rude! But as I kept reading, I realized it wasn't that He was ignoring her more than He was allowing her and the others with Him to be taught to come to Him and reason with Him – that He not without reason – Jesus is not far away.

After the woman begs Jesus to have mercy and Jesus reacts initially in silence, then His disciples chime in and start giving their two cents and telling Jesus to tell this woman to go away – because she is a bother, probably embarrassing and loud. However, that is not what fazed Jesus either – and a 2<sup>nd</sup> time the woman spoke but this time the Bible says she “worshiped Him” and pleaded again “Lord, help me!”

This time the Lord responded, but He still didn't say what we would think He would say – instead, the words would have normally been hurtful **“It isn't right to take food from the children and throw it to the dogs.”**

How many of you have ever been in a desperate place? How many of you have ever gone to the Emergency Room? How many of you have ever swallowed your pride and apologized for something that has a chance to embarrass you or even change your friendships or relationships? This woman could have been deeply insulted by Jesus telling her she shouldn't be asking for a handout. But -this woman – was a mother – she was desperate to see her daughter set free. So desperate that she didn't care what she looked like or who she embarrassed in her begging.

However, the icing on the cake was not in her desperate measures, or her determination to worship Jesus. It wasn't in her looks, or her ability to speak loudly. What moved the heart of Jesus was her faith in being bold enough to reason with Him and have enough faith to believe that her standing in the gap and standing up for what she believed would bring healing to her daughter who wasn't even there. **She said, “Yes, Lord; but even the pet dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their [young] masters' table.”**

**Verse 28 – “Dear woman,” Jesus said to her, “your faith is great, Your request is granted.” And her daughter was instantly healed.**

Friends, this woman faced her fears and reasoned with the Lord to bring about a change in her loved one. I would encourage us all to reason with the Lord more than we do – don't just take one answer – make sure it's the BEST answer. He gave us our powerful minds to think and make clear decisions and sound judgments using common sense, and logic but beyond that the natural meets the supernatural and spiritual wisdom forms and gives us great faith!

Even if you hear silence the first time, ask again! Even if you hear, you shouldn't be asking that now, ask again! The Lord will test our faith, this world will test our faith – and when we allow wisdom and faith to dictate our responses, we will see the Lord honor our requests not just because He loves us, but because of our desire to communicate with Him. We were created to have relations with the Creator of All – come and reason with Him today. Don't wait.

Is that the final answer? Not without reason!!

**James 3:17 - (AMP) - But the wisdom from above is first pure [morally and spiritually undefiled], then peace-loving [courteous, considerate], gentle, reasonable [and willing to listen], full of compassion and good fruits. It is unwavering, without [self-righteous] hypocrisy [and self-serving guile].**

**Isaiah 1:18 - (AMP) - “Come now, and let us reason together,” Says the LORD. “Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be like wool.**

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