

Study Guide: Persistent Faith

Lesson Summary & Objective

Matthew 15:21–28 reveals the faith of the Canaanite woman who persistently sought Jesus for her daughter’s healing. Her example teaches believers how prayer requires patient endurance, intentional pursuit, and humble posture before God. The objective of this lesson is to encourage believers to remain steadfast in prayer and faith while trusting God’s timing and response.

Key Scriptures

- Matthew 15:21–28
- Luke 18:1
- Psalm 40:1
- Psalm 34:14
- 1 Corinthians 15:58

Petition — The woman brought her need directly to Jesus with bold faith and continual prayer. (Matthew 15:22; Luke 18:1)

- Biblical Exposition Question: What does the woman’s persistence reveal about her faith in Jesus?
- Application Question: How can you grow more consistent in prayer instead of giving up?

Patient — Even when Jesus delayed responding, she waited patiently and remained faithful. (Matthew 15:23; Psalm 40:1)

- Biblical Exposition Question: Why is patience important in seasons when God seems silent?
- Application Question: What situation in your life requires patient trust in God right now?

Pursues — The woman continued pursuing Jesus despite opposition and discouragement. (Matthew 15:24–27; Psalm 34:14)

- Biblical Exposition Question: How did the woman respond when obstacles stood in her way?
- Application Question: What distractions or obstacles try to keep you from pursuing God?

Postures — Her humility and worship positioned her to receive from Jesus. (Matthew 15:27–28; 1 Corinthians 15:58)

- Biblical Exposition Question: How did the woman’s posture of humility affect Jesus’ response?
- Application Question: How can humility strengthen your walk with God and others?

Full Scripture References

Matthew 15:21–28

Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed.” But He answered her not a word... Then Jesus answered and said to her, “O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

Luke 18:1

Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart.

Psalms 40:1

I waited patiently for the Lord; And He inclined to me, And heard my cry.

Psalms 34:14

Depart from evil and do good; Seek peace and pursue it.

1 Corinthians 15:58

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.