

The Gospel of Mark – Unending Grace

Mark 7:24-8:10 May 3rd, 2026

Judge Fiorello La Guardia – 1930's & 40's in New York.

[Justice had to be served; extravagant grace was shown]

A grieved mother, a broken man, and a cowed in need.

Coming off of a collision with the Scribes and Pharisees over tradition and man-made regulations, Jesus takes it one step further, and travels into the no “no-go zone. The unclean land of the unclean people of Tyre and Sidon.

The Little Dog –

READ Mark 7:24-26

- **Jesus wanted no one to know...** His desire was to stay out of the view of the criticism of the Scribes and Pharisees, who were bent on His destruction.

This mother's name has gone unknown for hundreds of years, but her story will be known forever.

- Tormented by an unclean spirit:
Spirit of infirmity, spirit of anger, spirit of _____. Sin is ours to own. But oppression and even possession is within a realm we are generally unfamiliar with.

- Spirit of mute, torment, convulsions, bent over, etc.

- *Committed Mother who heard of Jesus* (SHOW MAP)

Tyre and Sidon: Northwest of Galilee & along the coast. Gentile unclean cities.

Greek: (Hellenistic) not from Greece but simply not Jewish, *a foreigner*.

Syrophoenician - Syria, coastal and outside the boundaries of Israel (Lebanon)

Canaanite (Matthew 15:22), Israel's famed enemy

She was a Greek-speaking pagan Gentile from Tyre, despised by the religious establishment and considered unclean or a “dog.” – *we don't associate with them*

Unclean, foreigner, from the lineage of our enemies. Why not?!

BUT – she was a mother

Do you see people or do you see their problem?

Intercession: to pray for someone else's need as if it were their own.

(End of 25-26) To be in deep sorrow, agony,

Fell at His feet – unashamed, desperate: Jesus, Lord, Son of David, have mercy

Kept Asking: to interrogate, to beseech, desire, request. (moms are moms)

Weezer Police – Mercy, please, I've had the worst day ever.

Luke 11:8-10 (because of his persistence)

Luke 18:4,5 (Widow & Judge) continually and make me weary

You know, God wants to be found by you.

Jeremiah 29:12-13 Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

READ MARK 7:26-30

Kunaria – household pet vs. a stray, they called scavenger dogs

Little Dogs: Expresses affection towards, softens the term. Took the edge off.

Jesus is shifting the tone and tenderness of the conversation...

“This Jewish Rabbi isn’t hiding His face from me, He isn’t leering at me out of the corner of His eye, and now He isn’t calling me a stray, rabid, street dog... but a puppy or part of the house.” **LOW but nonetheless, inside.**

Why was Jesus silent, ignoring her, then rejecting her? I don’t know.

Was He drawing faith out, showing genuine faith to the disciples? I don’t know.

But we do know that persistent, humble faith does not go ignored for long.

(28) Persistence and humility (She didn’t argue), ***the crumbs are enough.***

Pastor David Guzik’s comparison

Faith with pride = you end up trying to boss God around.

Humility without faith = Defeated faith rather than the victory of the cross

R. Kent Hughes points out that she came without the light and revelation of the cross. We live in the full light of the Gospel, how much more should we come in confident humility in prayer to Jesus?

HUMILITY & FAITH

She knew it had nothing to do with her goodness but the goodness of God in Christ. This mother’s name has gone unknown for hundreds of years, but her story will be known forever.

A grieved mother... now a broken man, with

Deaf-Mute (READ Matthew 7:31-37)

Decapolis to the Sea of Galilee (Back in Mark 5, this is where the demoniac testified)

Deaf AND Mute

Most likely an accident or ailment when younger (speech impediment)

By way of tradition and superstition, many would have labeled him demon-possessed because of his inability to talk.

(Was it demon possession? - no)

(Again, not everything has a demon or a sin attached to it)

Traditional formulas or processes, demon casting started with asking his name. Because he could not talk, they would have thought it impossible to free him.

**This wasn’t a show; Jesus wasn’t walking around zapping people.
It was personal for them and Him... touch and sighs**

Would you rather? (Lose your ability to see or your ability to hear?)

Doctors and Therapists will tell you that losing your hearing is far more difficult than losing your sight. Sign comes with mercy and compassion, and allows for communication. Hearing means you cannot communicate, you cannot understand, you cannot join in, and people just stare at you when they ask you a question, but you do not respond. The tongue being bound up, wrap your tongue in dental floss.

(7:33) - Step aside with Jesus

(Listen)(I can't hear and I don't know what to say) Step aside with Jesus.

There are no formulas. Responds to faith, people ask, people don't ask, withered hand, lady bent over in Luke that Jesus just points out, mud in the eyes, now fingers in the ears.

- **Fingers in his ears**
- **Did this heal him?** No – Communicating to someone who can't hear.
- **Wet fingers on a broken tongue:** It was believed that saliva had a curative effect
- **Did this heal him?** No – I'm working on your life. *Not strange, hopeful*

(34) Jesus looks to heaven, SIGHED, and says, Ephatha... and **SPOKE.**

With the Lord, His Word is enough, but He chose to express it in compassion.

(Carpenters' hands but compassionate eyes)

It was personal for them and Him... touch and sighs

Exceedingly, remarkably, incredibly well. He has done all things... ALL THINGS...

(37) **Prophetic fulfilment! Isaiah prophesied a Messianic age in which “the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped... the tongue of the mute will sing for joy” (Isaiah 35:5-6).**

We met a committed Mother who interceded for her daughter

We met Faithful Friends who interceded for this broken man

Let's look at Jesus, who **IS** the intercessor for the crowd in need.

ORDER UP! Food for 4,000 All you can eat, infinite,

!!!

READ Mark 8:1-10

Jesus called them to Himself and showed the need. (HE KNOWS)

COMPASSION on the multitude... because they have been consistently w/ Me 3 days.

Q: Do you react with compassion? (Scale from 1-5)

Sending them away was not an option... never is really.

They can walk away, but Jesus will not send them away.

- 5,000 was mostly Jewish
- Now, this 4,000, is mostly Gentile (25-30% of His time was spent with Gentiles)

HOW... we are in the wilderness?!

SERIOUSLY!!!

How many loaves do YOU have?

Seven – what about the fish?!?!

Q: What do you have? IS GOD ASKING YOU FOR SOMETHING?

Q: What are you holding back?

- He asked for the bread
- They volunteered the fish

LET'S SEE IF WE CAN BRING THIS ALL TOGETHER AND SEE WHAT THE LORD HAS

A grieved mother, a broken man, and a crowd in need.

IT'S NOT ABOUT THE SIGN, IT'S ABOUT THE SON!!!

You don't pull over and admire the exit sign – you see it and follow it.

You don't get to your destination and stand outside looking at the neon sign; you go in!

God operates based upon His goodness and not ours.

Which should create in us...

1. *All confidence*
2. *No excuses*

1 Timothy 2:1 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,

BUSY – Being Under Satan's Yoke

A pastor of yesteryear shared that he believes our greatest sin is prayerlessness.

- So busy caring for and entertaining our kids that we do not pray for them.
- So buried in work that we don't check in with the Lord and what He wants to do through us in that place of occupation.
- A flurry of activities, good deeds of community service, and even church ministry that we assume God is happy with our service that is fueled by self-strength rather than a fresh filling that only comes through moments of prayerfulness.

REALITY & REVELATION

(Revelation – God wants to be found by you and pour out blessings upon you)

Psalm 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart - These, O God, You will not despise.

Matthew 5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Intercession: to pray for someone else's need as if it were their own.

It's what the mother did, kept asking

It's what the friends did, begged Him

It's what they did, and it's who Jesus is... His unending grace

Hebrews 7:25 Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

Romans 8:34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

Romans 5:20 ... But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more,