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EVEN DOGS DESERVE CRUMBS

If you have ever had a dog, then you know they like to be in the same room with you when you eat, often begging for food and if something drops on the floor forget it, it is gone in a flash. They wait patiently for the next “treat” to fall to the floor.

In Matthew chapter 15 a non-Jewish woman came to Jesus. She had a problem with her daughter. She was vexed or troubled with a demon. In verse 22 she said, **“... Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David...”** Jesus didn’t answer her. He ignored her and his disciples tried to send her away.

It sounded like she knew who Jesus was didn’t it? She had probably heard of all the miracles he had performed. Like most people that know someone with a demon, they don’t have a clue what to do. Jesus was her last resort. She travelled a long way to get to him and ask for help. Couldn’t he at least listen?

Instead of responding with a yes, he finally answered her and said in verse 24, **“...I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”** Now this was a true statement. Jesus did not come for anyone but the Jews until after the resurrection. John 1:11 says, **“He came unto his own, and his own received him not.”** This had to be fulfilled so that is why he answered her the way that he did.

She wasn’t going to give up. Verse 25 says, **“She came and worshipped him (fell at his feet) saying, Lord, help me.”** Once again, he said to her, **“It is not meet (right) to take the children’s bread, and to cast it to dogs.”** The bread of course that he was speaking of was not physical bread but was speaking of healing. But now he calls her a dog, which is symbolic of the lowest of low kind of person.

She still didn’t give up! She came back with, **“Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters’ table.”** She had determined faith. She wasn’t going to leave without her “miracle”. Then Jesus answered her and said, **“O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was whole from that very hour.”**

How would you respond if Jesus called you a dog? Would you walk away angry? Would you say, “not fair”? I am sure some of us would have responded unpleasantly, but not this woman. She didn’t care what he called her or who wanted to get rid of her. She just kept believing. She had “bulldog” faith that bites and holds on. Sometimes it takes this kind of faith to receive from God. He wants to see what we are truly made of. I believe that many don’t get their prayers answered because they don’t press through and remind God of His promises until they receive an answer.

Now, we, as Christians are not dogs, but we limit our faith like someone that doesn't know Christ might do. I think this woman was a "more than conqueror" type of person. I believe that after the resurrection and the gentiles were grafted in that she was one of the first to grab on to salvation and not let go. Is that in the scripture? No, but with the faith she had, you can be sure that she did just that. I wonder what would happen if people started acting like her. Would there be a revival in the land? Would many receive the miracles they are waiting for? Well, it will only happen with "bulldog" faith by which I mean bite and hold on. I pray that you have that kind of faith!