

Sermon Reflections

Kingdom Kind of People (Matthew 15:21-39)

Summary: Pride keeps you out of Christ's kingdom. Heed these three humbling calls to find grace, and a place in His kingdom.

Three Calls for Kingdom People:

1. See Your Desperate Need (vv. 21-28)

- Consider that Jesus withdrew to Tyre and Sidon - a region to which Jewish people did not go as they did not like the people. In fact, they thought of them as unclean and under God's judgment. While there, amazingly, a Canaanite woman came to Jesus crying out to Him. Why did she, the most unlikely of people, come to Him?
- What was Jesus' assessment of her? What was the Canaanite woman's response to Jesus equating her with dogs?
- How does that relate to you and the way you came to the Lord? Can anyone come to Him with a different assessment of themselves?

2. Come in Your Brokenness (vv. 29-31)

- Next Jesus goes to another region of the Gentiles known as the Decapolis. The king of Israel is leaving Israel. Again why?
- The people of that region bring all the lame, the blind, the crippled, and the mute to Jesus. Why? What was their response to Jesus healing them all?
- Again, what is the only way a person can come to Jesus? Who receives the glory when we come in that way? What does true faith in Christ do in terms of other people who do not know Christ (v. 30)?

3. Remain Wholly Dependent (vv. 32-39)

- Who are the people to whom Jesus goes for the feeding of the 4000? How does Exodus 12:37 relate to the text? What does feeding the 5000 and the 4000 teach the disciples about His love and the makeup of God's true people?
- Why does Jesus keep teaching the disciples over and over again that the Gospel is not just for Jewish people?
- How are we like the disciples? Do we cross cultures here in the USA to people of different ages, social classes, and ethnicities? If not, why not be intentional, and determine to take a step of faith this coming week and share the gospel with someone who is different than you.