



September 8, 2024, Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Mark 7:24-37

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

God of grace and mercy, you call us to lives of faith, yet we often forget that living our faith means taking action on behalf of those whose daily needs are not met, who face oppression, or who we would rather not think about. Shake us out of our complacency and walk alongside us as we strive to put our faith in you into action on behalf of others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Read: Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." (Mark 7:27-28)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

A Gentile woman in the region of Tyre went to Jesus for help for her demon-possessed daughter. When Jesus replied to her request with a prejudiced comment against gentiles, the woman shrewdly gave an answer that led to her daughter's recovery.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- Do you think Jesus made a mistake when he turned down the Gentile woman's request for healing for her daughter? Why or why not? What would it mean if Jesus made a mistake?
- For the littles: Do you like dogs or cats more? Why?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God hear your pleas and respond with "yes!" Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Consider who in your local community are considered outcasts. Find out if there's an organization in your area to support relations with them. Reach out and learn what you can. Take steps to bridge the gap.



Go Deeper: Read and reflect on the readings for each day of the week.

Monday, Psalm 73:1-20; Proverbs 8:32-9:6; Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Tuesday, Psalm 73:1-20; Proverbs 11:1-31; Hebrews 12:3-13

Wednesday, Psalm 73:1-20; Proverbs 14:1-9; Matthew 17:14-21

Thursday, Psalm 19; Proverbs 15:1-17; Hebrews 11:17-22

Friday, Psalm 19; Proverbs 19:24-29; James 2:17-26

Saturday, Psalm 19; Proverbs 21:1-17; Matthew 21:23-32