

Eating Crumbs

WK 62 Mt. 15:21-28

WARM UP: Have you ever been late for a meal only to discover that there was little left but crumbs? Did you eat them or pass them up?

Crumbs. If you've ever been hungry enough, you can make a meal out of crumbs and be thankful for it. If you believed you were entitled to more and cheated out of it, you probably passed them up thinking it was beneath you. The same thing is often true when it comes to much of our lives.

God is not only in the big stuff of our lives. He often shows his power and concern for us in the small things, the seemingly insignificant, the looked-over, and the left overs. He can take a few loaves of bread and couple of fish and turn it into a banquet to feed thousands. He can take even the smallest amount of faith and use it to move mountains if we'll only believe and act in faith. Yes, God is in the small stuff and he responds to those who willing to scrape the desert plate of life and eat crumbs from time to time.

READ ABOUT IT: Matt. 15:21-28

- 1. When you need to get away, what is your favorite place to go to unwind?
- 2. How would Jesus' opponents have viewed Jesus' 100 mile trip to this areas?
- 3. Who is this woman who is driving Jesus' disciples nuts? Why does she seek Jesus out when she learns that he is in the area?
- 4. What do we learn about this woman? About Jesus? About his attitude toward non-Jews?
- 5. If you had been her, how would you have taken being ignored by Jesus? How would you have taken the disciples' request for Jesus to send her away and Jesus' reply?
- 6. When she persists in asking for his help, how would you have taken Jesus' response that it wasn't right to take bread from the children and give it to their dog (little dog or pet)?
- 7. The woman is unoffended and quickly responds to Jesus' word play by saying, "I'm just asking to eat the crumbs that fall from the table." How does Jesus react and respond to her persistent faith?
- 8. When you deal with needy people or "outsiders", are you more like Jesus' disciples or Jesus? Why?
- 9. How has God gone a "long distance" to heal you?