

At Home Church Family Worship

16th August 2020

Service Theme:

Canaanite woman changes everything!



Welcome

Preparation

Take a moment to be still and place yourself in God's hands.

Remember those who will also be worshipping with us and even though we cannot see them, we hold them to God.

Lord God, as we gather in your house,
we thank you for your presence, here with us.
Thank you, Lord, that each one of us is unique,
yet we share a common bond in you.
We come together as one body,
but we all learn and experience things in different ways.
We thank you for your amazing word
that gives us so many pictures of your kingdom.
Something for everyone,
something to feed our hearts and minds.
Be with us, Lord,
and bless us richly as we call upon your name.
Amen.

Opening Hymn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vm-A5NikI8U>

I watch the sunrise lighting the sky,
Casting its shadows near.
And on this morning bright though it be,
I feel those shadows near me.

But you are always close to me
Following all my ways.
May I be always close to you
Following all your ways, Lord.

I watch the sunlight shine through the clouds,
Warming the earth below.
And at the mid-day, life seems to say:
I feel your brightness near me.

For you are always
Following all my ways.
May I be always close to you
Following all your ways, Lord.

I watch the sunset fading away,
Lighting the clouds with sleep.
And as the evening closes its eyes,
I feel your presence near me.

For you are always
Following all my ways.
May I be always close to you
Following all your ways, Lord.

I watch the moonlight guarding the night,
Waiting till morning comes.
The air is silent, earth is at rest
Only your peace is near me.

Yes, you are always
Following all my ways.
May I be always close to you
Following all your ways, Lord.

Opening Prayer

We are here today, Lord, to worship you. As we bow our heads before you, we want to be amazed by your wisdom, bowled over by your love, and completely lost in you. Lord, open our hearts to receive you, in ways beyond whatever we could ever ask or even think. Amen.

A prayer of approach Father God, we are here today, to praise you, to learn from you. Your wisdom, shown to us through Jesus, your most precious Son, is far greater than that of the world. It has the power to confound all our expectations. We approach you now as children, sitting at your feet, bathed in your love, hanging on your every word. Speak to us, Lord. Amen

Prayer for the Day

Lord of heaven and earth, as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer, give us patience and courage never to lose hope, but always to bring our prayers before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Saying Sorry (optional – include a children's sorry prayer)

Saying Sorry

We bring all that is sin - all that we have done wrong - to God for his forgiveness.

Keep your eyes open and

- *Make a fist* We are sorry for the times we have got angry with other people.
- *Point away from yourself with your index finger* We are sorry for the times we have blamed others and seen things wrong in others without recognising how much is also wrong in us.
- *Close up your hand and hold it close to your chest* We are sorry for the times we have kept things selfishly to ourselves and not been prepared to give to those who need our help.
- *Put your hand over your mouth* We are sorry for the foolish words we have spoken which have hurt other people.
-
- *Put your hand over your eyes* We are sorry that we have deliberately chosen not to see the good things we could have done to help other people.
- *Put your hand over one ear* We are sorry for the times we have not listened to the cries of those who are poor or who suffer injustice.

After a pause ask everyone to hold out that same hand with an open palm upward, as if they are waiting to receive something. Use words such as:

Jesus says, 'If you are tired from carrying heavy burdens, come to me and I will give you rest'. So we bring all that we are to Jesus - all our sins and our failure to love. Thank-you that you died for us so that we might be forgiven and start a new life in the power of your Holy Spirit.



BIBLE READINGS



Reading – Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

The Remnant of Israel

11 I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. ² God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew. Don't you know what Scripture says in the passage about Elijah—how he appealed to God against Israel:

²⁹ for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, ³¹ so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you. ³² For God has bound everyone over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

Reading: Matthew 15:21-28

The Faith of a Canaanite Woman

²¹ Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²² A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly."

²³ Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us."

²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel."

²⁵ The woman came and knelt before him. "Lord, help me!" she said.

²⁶ He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs."

²⁷ "Yes it is, Lord," she said. "Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table."

²⁸ Then Jesus said to her, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed at that moment.

Hymn: I stand amazed

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gwJ3aALR3Z4>

I stand amazed in the presence
Of Jesus the Nazarene,
And wonder how He could love me,
A sinner, condemned, unclean.

How marvellous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be:
How marvellous! How wonderful!
Is my Saviour's love for me!

He took my sins and my sorrows,
He made them His very own;

He bore the burden to Calvary,
And suffered and died alone.

How marvellous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be:
How marvellous! How wonderful!
Is my Saviour's love for me!

When with the ransomed in glory
His face I at last shall see,
'Twill be my joy through the ages
To sing of His love for me.

How marvellous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be:
How marvellous! How wonderful!
Is my Saviour's love for me!

 **Reflection Time** 

Short Reflection by Revd Capt Clive Deverell

The Canaanite woman changes everything, this for me is one of the most important pieces of scripture in the Bible.

I would go as far as to say after the major festivals, we should be celebrating this day more than any other. This passage follows just a few paragraphs after the feeding of the five thousand. If we take the link to leftovers after the feeding of the five thousand there was enough left over twelve baskets. An oblique reference, I believe to the twelve tribes of Israel.

Here in this discourse this gentile woman says the dogs, eat even the crumbs, she saw Jesus as someone also for her, a gentile. She believed her daughter would be healed. If only Jesus would say, and do what he had already done for the Jewish people.

“I was sent only to the lost of Israel” (those twelve tribes) is his reply to her request.

However, she pleads, she begs, but most importantly she points out that crumbs fall to the floor.

This is a stunning image of a woman who is desperate, but also one who deep down knows who Jesus is.

Jesus could have responded negatively but if we look back to the feeding of the Five thousand, he had “pity” on those who had followed him.

He again he cared, he had empathy, so what is he to do?

The response so far to Jesus from the people of Israel had been patchy, some followed, but others certainly those in authority were already plotting his demise. She has compared herself and her kind (the gentiles, to dogs) in such a belittling way.

Here in this moment Jesus’s ministry changes.

He recognises, His love, God’s love, changes everything for all peoples, not just the people of Israel.

Those who reach out to him whatever creed, colour, background now have access to that life changing love of God. The woman’s daughter is healed, and as a consequence you and I now have access.

Access to what ? To God! With it a life changing relationship with Jesus, it is a relationship which for us gentiles all became possible because of this woman who pleaded, and begged Jesus to recognise that his love, God’s love could change everything for all peoples. That is certainly worth celebrating.

For children: While listening to this, why not do the colouring sheet that is provided with the children's sheets.

Reflection Music: Love changes everything

<https://youtu.be/pl04SoSGc6w>

Children's Reflection on the Matthew Reading

And/or you could do the Family Time Sheet together (separate sheet).



Family Song (optional) – Prayer is like a Telephone

<https://youtu.be/sAUik9wPxUs>

Intercessory Prayer

We pray for all in authority, that they will be respectfully conscious of the weight on their shoulders, and that they will act responsibly for the people they serve. We pray for them in their personal lives, with the worries and cares that only they see.

We pray for our friends, family, colleagues. We pray that as we walk alongside them, you will use us to bring them close to you, and they will learn of your love.

We pray that we might be sensitive to the needs of those around us – the people we see every day, perhaps as fleetingly as at the shops, or in the bus queue. We have no idea what burdens they are carrying, or if they need a kind word from you that only we can give.

We pray that we will see the positive in people, even when it's hard, and reach out to encourage them. Lord God... Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done
On earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread
Forgive us our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us
Lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
And the glory are yours
Now and for ever.
Amen.**

Final Hymn: You Say by Lauren Daigle

<https://youtu.be/slaT8Jl2zpl>

I keep fighting voices in my mind that say
I'm not enough
Every single lie that tells me I will never
measure up
Am I more than just the sum of every high
and every low?
Remind me once again just who I am,
because I need to know,
ooh oh

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing
You say I am strong when I think I am weak
And You say I am held when I am falling
short
And when I don't belong,
oh, You say I am Yours
And I believe (I), oh, I believe (I)
What You say of me (I) I believe

The only thing that matters now is
everything You think of me
In You I find my worth,
in You I find my identity, ooh oh

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing
You say I am strong when I think I am weak
And You say I am held when I am falling
short
When I don't belong,
oh, You say I am Yours
And I believe (I), oh, I believe (I)
What You say of me (I) Oh, I believe

Taking all I have and now I'm layin' it at
Your feet
You'll have every failure God,
You'll have every victory, ooh oh

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing
You say I am strong when I think I am weak
You say I am held when I am falling short
When I don't belong, oh,
You say I am Yours
And I believe (I), oh, I believe (I)
What You say of me (I) I believe
Oh, I believe (I), yes, I believe (I)
What You say of me (I) I believe (oh)

Songwriters: Jason Ingram, Lauren Daigle, Paul Brendon Mabury
© CAPITOL CHRISTIAN MUSIC GROUP
For non-commercial use only.
Data From: [LyricFind](#)

Closing Prayer

May Christ dwell in our hearts through faith,
that we may be rooted and grounded in love
and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

All Amen.

Dismissal

The Grace

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen.

God bless you now and always

