

SERIES – THE ORIGINAL STORY OF JESUS

Talking to Jesus, 10/18/26

Mark 7:24-30

“Is there a right way and a wrong way to talk to the Lord?”

I. Example of Some of the Religious Leaders

- They were more concerned about strictly following their religious traditions and rituals
- Their hearts were not focused on drawing closer to the Lord and deepening their communion with God
- They came to God with arrogance, instead of humility
- They used religious traditions to harm others, including providing a loophole called Corban for people to avoid supporting their elderly parents

II. Example of the Syro-Phoenician Woman

- She approached Jesus with determination and trust
- She was determined to have Jesus heal her daughter
- She was persistent with her request to Jesus
- Jesus appreciated how she spoke to him because it came from her heart

III. Examples From the Psalms

- Psalm 13 asks God why he has forgotten them
- Psalm 10 asks God why he has hidden himself from them
- Psalm 22 asks God why he has abandoned them

IV. Lessons For Us – When we talk to the Lord ...

- ... we should be humble
- ... we should have a sincere desire to connect with him
- ... we can speak honestly about how we are feeling
- ... we can talk to him about anything
- ... there is never a bad time to talk to the Lord

It’s even OK to complain to God:

Psalm 13 - “O Lord, how long will you forget me? Forever? How long will you look the other way? ² How long must I struggle with anguish in my soul, with sorrow in my heart every day?”

Psalm 10 - “O Lord, why do you stand so far away? Why do you hide when I am in trouble?”

Psalm 22 - “My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? Why are you so far away when I groan for help? ² Every day I call to you, my God, but you do not answer. Every night I lift my voice, but I find no relief.”

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

Mark 7:24-30 (New Living Translation)

²⁴ Then Jesus left Galilee and went north to the region of Tyre. He didn’t want anyone to know which house he was staying in, but he couldn’t keep it a secret.²⁵ Right away a woman who had heard about him came and fell at his feet. Her little girl was possessed by an evil spirit, ²⁶ and she begged him to cast out the demon from her daughter.

Since she was a Gentile, born in Syrian Phoenicia, ²⁷ Jesus told her, “First I should feed the children—my own family, the Jews. It isn’t right to take food from the children and throw it to the dogs.”

²⁸ She replied, “That’s true, Lord, but even the dogs under the table are allowed to eat the scraps from the children’s plates.”

²⁹ “Good answer!” he said. “Now go home, for the demon has left your daughter.”³⁰ And when she arrived home, she found her little girl lying quietly in bed, and the demon was gone.