

Matthew 28:19

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations,”

1. **How do we reach the world without being of the world?**

1 Corinthians 9:22

“I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some.”

2. **How far should we go in trying to reach the world?**

3. **Some believe that we should avoid those things that are especially offensive to tolerance and pluralism.**

Judgmental
Exclusivity
Discrimination
Profiling



4. **What would Jesus have us do?**

Mark 7

“²⁴ And from there He arose and went away to the region of Tyre. And when He had entered a house, He wanted no one to know of it; yet He could not escape notice. ²⁵ But after hearing of Him, a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit, immediately came and fell at His feet. ²⁶ Now the woman was a Gentile, of the Syrophoenician race. And she kept asking Him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷ And He was saying to her, “Let the children be satisfied first, for it is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁸ But she answered and said to Him, “Yes, Lord, but even the dogs under the table feed on the children’s crumbs.” ²⁹ And He said to her, “Because of this answer go your way; the demon has gone out of your daughter.” ³⁰ And going back to her home, she found the child lying on the bed, the demon having departed.”

Observations

1. **Jesus’ miracle healing & exorcism is *not* the point of this story.**

Jesus’ ministry was one of spiritual hope with authenticating temporal, miracle-signs.

John 20

“³⁰ Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.”

Observations

2. This story is centered on **who** was healed and her humble faith.

In this case the blessing was given to a GENTILE WOMAN

in response to her BROKENNESS & FAITH

Note: This is the only account in Mark of Jesus healing a Gentile.

Observations

2. This story is centered on **who** was healed and her humble faith.

Jesus’ ministry was to Jews only and it was not until after Pentecost that the Gentile world was included.

Matthew 15:24

“I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”

Mark 16:15

“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.”

Observations

3. This story is a study in contrasts.

Jesus displays two types of discrimination here, one is superficial while the other is of the heart.

Mark 7:27

“And He was saying to her, “Let the children be satisfied first, for it is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.”

Mark 7:29

“And He said to her, “Because of this answer go your way; the demon has gone out of your daughter.”

Mark 7

“⁶ And He said to them, “Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, ‘*This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far away from Me.*’ ⁷ But in vain do they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.”

Contrasts in Mark 7

Vs. 1-23	Vs. 24-30
Jewish Pharisee	Gentile woman
Pride	Humility
Think they are clean	Knows she is unclean
Judging Jesus	Receiving Jesus
Jesus resisted them	Jesus gave grace to her
Older brother (Lk.15)	Prodigal son (Lk.15)

**Example
of Jesus being IN but not OF
the world.**

**Disciples of Jesus value
brokenness and humility
over self sufficiency & pride
(unlike the world).**

In but not of the world

World’s view	Christian view
My problem is external (environment).	My problem is internal (my nature).
Pride and self sufficiency are entitlements.	Pride and self sufficiency are obstacles.
Christ is an example only.	Christ is a Redeemer Lord.

Brokenness is



- a major theme in the Bible.

- the chief purpose of the Law.

- a necessary door to peace with God.

Challenge

1. See brokenness and humility as doors to God's blessing **not obstacles to it.**

1 Peter 5

⁵ . . . and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for *God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.*
⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time,”

Challenge

1. See brokenness and humility as a door to God's blessing **not obstacles to it.**

Luke 18:14

“I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Challenge

2. Turn disappointment and pain into faith and brokenness **rather than bitterness and hardness of heart.**

2 Corinthians 12:10

“Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.”

Challenge

2. Turn disappointment and pain into faith and brokenness **rather than bitterness and hardness of heart.**

Romans 7 - 8

²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin. ¹ There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.”

Challenge

3. Strive to see things as God does **not as the world does.**

Matthew 6

²² The lamp of the body is the eye; if therefore your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light. ²³ But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!”



Challenge

3. Strive to see things as God does **not** as the world does.

Ephesians 1

“¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe.”

Examples

1. Our view of God is a good place to start.
2. Our view of our spiritual neediness is a step toward “the Father’s fatted calf feast.”
3. Circumstances are opportunities to develop and demonstrate godly responses.
4. It was in Jesus’ humiliation that life was won for us and it is in our humiliation that we receive its blessings.