

# The Faith of a Canaanite Woman

Matthew 15:21–28 (NIV)

—Mk 7:24–30

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<sup>26</sup> He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.”

<sup>27</sup> “Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.”

<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.



## Synopsis

The unexpected responsive of faith from a Canaanite woman shows us that Jesus is for all people. today’s lesson is about impartiality. The ability to be unbiased towards any one race, class or person. This attitude is demonstrated by God and is to be emulated by the human race.

## Objectives:

- I. God is impartial
- II. The impartiality of Jesus Christ
- III. Showing impartiality to all people is commanded
- IV. Ways to avoid partiality
- V. Christians should be partial towards spiritual principles
- VI. Examples where impartiality is absent

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## Sermon Outline:

### I. God is impartial

**Deuteronomy 10:17 (NIV) — 17** For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes.

#### A. God treats people impartially

**Matthew 5:45 (NIV) — 45** that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

#### B. God judges impartially

**Colossians 3:25 (NIV) — 25** Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for their wrongs, and there is no favoritism.

#### C. God does not distinguish between people on the basis of external appearance

**Galatians 2:6 (NIV) — 6** As for those who were held in high esteem—whatever they were makes no difference to me; God does not show favoritism—they added nothing to my message.

#### D. God does not discriminate against different races or classes

**Acts 10:34–35 (NIV) — 34** Then Peter began to speak: “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism **35** but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right.

### II. The impartiality of Jesus Christ

#### A. Jesus Christ’s teaching was impartial

**Luke 20:21 (NIV) — 21** So the spies questioned him: “Teacher, we know that you speak and teach what is right, and that you do not show partiality but teach the way of God in accordance with the truth.

#### B. Jesus Christ showed impartiality in his dealings with people

**John 4:9 (NIV) — 9** The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

### III. Showing impartiality to all people is commanded

#### A. Impartiality to foreigners

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**Exodus 22:21 (NIV) — 21** “Do not mistreat or oppress a foreigner, for you were foreigners in Egypt.

**Romans 10:12 (NIV) — 12** For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him,

## B. Impartiality to children

**Deuteronomy 21:15–17 (NIV) — 15** If a man has two wives, and he loves one but not the other, and both bear him sons but the firstborn is the son of the wife he does not love, **16** when he wills his property to his sons, he must not give the rights of the firstborn to the son of the wife he loves in preference to his actual firstborn, the son of the wife he does not love. **17** He must acknowledge the son of his unloved wife as the firstborn by giving him a double share of all he has. That son is the first sign of his father’s strength. The right of the firstborn belongs to him.

## C. Impartiality to the poor

**Exodus 23:6 (NIV) — 6** “Do not deny justice to your poor people in their lawsuits.

## IV. Ways to avoid partiality

### A. By not accepting bribes

**Exodus 23:8 (NIV) — 8** “Do not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds those who see and twists the words of the innocent.

### B. By not following the crowd

**Exodus 23:2 (NIV) — 2** “Do not follow the crowd in doing wrong. When you give testimony in a lawsuit, do not pervert justice by siding with the crowd,

**Mark 15:15 (NIV) — 15** Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

## V. Christians should be partial towards spiritual principles

**Matthew 6:24 (NIV) — 24** “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

## VI. Examples where impartiality is absent

**Genesis 25:27–28 (NIV) — 27** The boys grew up, and Esau became a skillful hunter, a man of the open country, while Jacob was content to stay at home among the tents. **28** Isaac, who had a taste for wild game, loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob.



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## Invitation:

**Hear - Romans 10:17 (KJV 1900)**

<sup>17</sup> So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

**Believe - Hebrews 11:6 (KJV 1900)**

<sup>6</sup> But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that *cometh* to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

**Repent - Acts 17:30 (KJV 1900)**

<sup>30</sup> And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:

**Confess - 1 Timothy 6:12 (KJV 1900)**

<sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

**Be Baptized - Acts 22:16 (KJV 1900)**

<sup>16</sup> And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

**Remain Faithful - 1 Corinthians 10:12 (KJV 1900)**

<sup>12</sup> Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.