
Message Notes

Pastor Steve Durand

Date: January 29, 2017

Bible Focus: Matthew 15:21-28

Current Series: Daring Faith

Message Title: Expectant Faith

"Then Jesus said to her, 'Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.'" (Matthew 15:28)

Elements of expectant faith:

1. Expectant faith recognizes God's _____ (v. 22)
2. Expectant faith is _____, even when tested (vv. 23, 26)
3. Expectant faith remains _____ (v. 25)
4. Expectant faith is often boldly _____ (vv. 22, 25, 27)
5. Expectant faith is confident that God is _____ and will give you what you _____ (v. 27)

"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him." (Hebrews 11:6)

Life Group Message Discussion Questions

Matthew 15:21-28

1. Read Matthew 15:21-28. Why did Jesus commend this woman for her faith? What specific qualities of faith did she exhibit?
2. What barriers did Jesus put up in this story in order to test the woman's faith? What trials or tests make it challenging for you to maintain your faith?
3. This story is the second occasion in which Jesus commended someone for their great faith. The first occasion is found in Matthew 8:5-13. Why did Jesus consider the centurion's faith in that story to be great? Are there any similarities you see between this story and the one about the Canaanite woman?
4. Is it reasonable for us to expect things of God? Why or why not? What Scripture passages can you use to support your answer?
5. How does having expectant faith honor God? What are the dangers of expecting little from God?
6. Read Hebrews 11:8-19. How did Abraham exhibit expectant faith? What did he expect to receive from God?
7. One demonstration of expectant faith is in our presenting requests to God. Read James 1:5-8 and 4:1-3. What do these passages teach us about how we are – and are *not* – to pray?
8. How do the promises in the following passages strengthen your own faith? (1 John 1:9; John 14:13-14; 2 Chronicles 7:14; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Hebrews 4:16; Galatians 6:9; Philippians 4:19; Romans 8:28)