

The Gospel of Mark Message Series

Discussion Guide based on the morning message on February 28, 2010

Pounding on the Door of Heaven – Mark 7:24-30

Big Idea: Know how to bring your requests before the Lord.

Leading the Session Helps/Discussion Questions

- Make announcements and have a prayer time. (before Choir Members arrive)

ICE BREAKERS

- What was the Christmas gift you asked for as a child that you most wanted? Tell how you felt once you got it (or didn't get it).
- Does the Bible say anything about making requests from God? For any answers, back them up by finding them in the Bible.
- Ask the group to brainstorm and write their words or phrases down: What words come to mind as you reflect on the message from Mark 7:24-30?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What were some of the things that were against the woman being able to connect with Jesus in the passage? Do you ever feel like there are things against you when trying to connect with Jesus?
- Examine the passage. How did the woman perceive Jesus? How can we use her example to help us form our view of who Jesus is?
- Do you think Jesus had purposes for the way He acted and the things He said? (It's my opinion that Jesus had a purpose for everything He said and did. He was the most purposeful person that ever lived.) What was His purpose in His silence to the woman? What could Jesus purpose have been in His comment to the woman's request?
- As you examine the woman's response to Jesus, how would you describe the woman's character? What was the woman's attitude toward Jesus? Is there a lesson for us as we examine her attitude? What role does attitude play in godliness?
- How can we be bold and yet be humble?
- What did Jesus owe this woman? What does Jesus owe you? What does the statement, "that's not fair" imply? (that you are entitled to more)

Application

- Knock on Heaven's Door this week on an issue you had put aside. Commit to being consistent in your prayer life for that issue. Write it down in a journal and when God answers, write down the date of the answer.