

## MESSAGE NOTES

January 15, 2012

### His Heart for All Peoples, Our Hope

*#13 The Reason for Hope*

*Mark 7:24-37*

The healing of the Syrophenician woman's demonized daughter (*Mark 7:24-30*)

The healing of the deaf and mute man (*Mark 7:31-37*)

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January 16—21, 2012

MONDAY

Read Mark 7:24-37. Make as many observations as you can about these two accounts from the gospel of Mark. What is happening? Who is involved? Where do these events take place? When do they take place? At first reading, what does this passage seem to reveal about Christ's heart for all people?

TUESDAY

Read Mark 7:1-23 and then reread Mark 7:24-37. Compare and contrast the tone and content of Jesus' message to each of his four audiences: the Pharisees/scribes, the disciples, the Syrophenician woman, and the deaf man. Compare and contrast their responses to Jesus' message. With which response do you most identify and why?

WEDNESDAY

Read Mark 7:24-30. Locate Tyre on a map online or in the back of your Bible. What is significant about Jesus' trip to this specific location? Why might Jesus go to this region on the heels of his exchange with the Pharisees and scribes? What do you notice about the manner in which the Syrophenician woman approaches Jesus? What is her plea?

THURSDAY

Read Matthew 10:5-7 and 28:18-20. What is different about the target of the disciples' ministry in these two accounts? What has changed? Now reread Mark 7:24-30. How does Jesus' first response to the woman coincide with the initial emphasis of His earthly ministry? (In this metaphor, "children" represent Jews and "dogs" represent Gentiles or non-Jews.) How does the woman demonstrate faith in her request and her response to Jesus? What can you learn and apply from this interaction?

FRIDAY

Read Mark 7:31-37. Use a map online or in the back of your Bible to track Jesus' journey from Tyre to Decapolis, the ten Gentile cities to the east of the Sea of Galilee. What does this suggest about the broadening scope of people to whom Jesus is preaching and ministering? What do we learn about Jesus' character from His interaction with the deaf man?

WEEKEND

Reread Mark 7:5-8; 31-37. Compare and contrast the "lips" and "hearts" of the Pharisees and scribes with the lips and heart of the deaf man in response to Jesus' message and ministry. How responsive are your lips and your heart to Jesus' message? Are they aligned like they are with the deaf man? Reread Matthew 28:18-20. How does Jesus' model in Mark 7 and His command in Matthew 28 serve as a model for your heart toward all people regardless of what they look like on the outside?