

Getting to Know Each Other.

Share light refreshments. Go around the group and introduce yourselves and talk through this question: *"What is one of your best memories of you mother?"* *

Follow up. Did you get to share with someone about Jesus this past week?
Or how else did you obey Jesus?

Vision. Jesus told us to "Make disciples." The purpose of our Life Group is: To help people become Believers in Jesus and grow up to become Disciple Makers.

Bible Study Introduction. The passage we will look at today takes place when Jesus and His disciples were in the Gentile region of Tyre in present day Lebanon. Jesus' words, comparing her to a dog, sound very derogatory and racist. But listen carefully to what Jesus was looking for in this Gentile woman's response. The result was a great complement and an answer to prayer.

Pray. Before we read the Scripture, let's pray that God will speak to each one of us.

Read. We will read through the passage three times and then discuss it, so listen carefully. Get three people to read **Mark 7:24-30**. **

Discuss these questions, one at a time, encouraging everyone who wants to respond to do so. Remind the group: Keep your answers based just on this passage.

1. What stands out or surprises you in this passage?
2. What does it show us about people and choices we can make?
 - What would have been the result if she had gotten offended and walked away from Jesus?
 - This woman most likely knew that Jewish people looked down on Gentiles like her. What does her persistence and her response show that she believed about Jesus?
3. What does this passage show us about God?
 - Based on what you know the Bible says about how Jesus related Samaritan people, how do you think Jesus felt about non-Jewish people?
 - This woman was saying just a few crumbs of Jesus' power would be enough to set her daughter free. What do you think it was about this response that pleased Jesus?
 - The book of Matthew tells this about this same event. Read Matthew 15:28 to see what Jesus said to this woman. What does this show Jesus thought of this woman?
 - What do you think Jesus desires from us as we relate to Him today?

Obeying Jesus. As disciples of Jesus, we want to follow Jesus in whatever way He is leading us today. As we pray silently for 30 seconds, see if God speaks to your heart. Pray something like this:
"Lord Jesus, what do you want me to do with what You are showing me today?" [30 sec. silent prayer]

Remember to obey what God is saying to you. And this week ask God who He wants you to talk with about Jesus. Let's close in prayer.

Closing Prayer.

Pray something like: "Lord, prepare the hearts of the people we will be sharing the Good News of Jesus with this week. And give us strength and joy as we follow You. In Jesus' name, Amen."

* If there are no new people, you can skip the "icebreaker."
** Reading from different translations often helps.