



"God is sovereign. But faith is a factor.
He expects us to operate in growing trust.
He stretches us to grow us.
Tall mountains. Deep valleys. Long waits.
Keep fixating on Him. Keep believing.
Continue to trust." - Jeff Lyle





Matthew 15:21-28 (ESV)

The Faith of a Canaanite Woman 21 And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. 22 And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon." 23 But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying out after us.

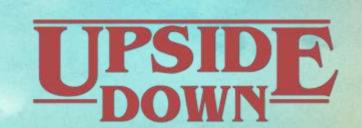




Matthew 15:21-28 cont.

24 He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." 25 But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." 26 And he answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." 27 She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." 28 Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

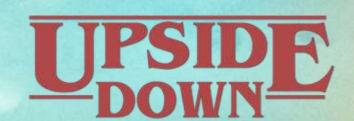




Matthew 15:21-22 (ESV)

21 And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. 22 And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon."





WHEN WE NEED GOD TO MAKE SOME BIG MOVES ON OUR BEHALF, WE HAVE TO BE CARFUL THAT OUR INTERACTION WITH HIM IS NOT REDUCED TO A FORMULA OR RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS OR BASED OUT OF ANY FALSE PRETENSES.



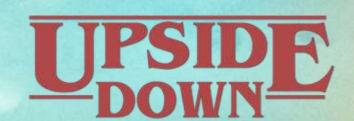


Matthew 15:23 (ESV)

23 But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying out after us.

SILENCE IS NOT THE WAY WE EXPECT JESUS TO RESPOND, BUT DON'T MISS HOW SHE RESPONDS BACK-WITH GRIT





Matthew 15:24 (ESV)

24 He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." 25 But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me."

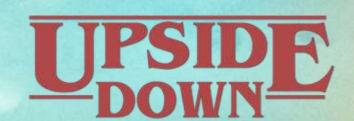
REJECTION AND DENIAL ARE NOT WAYS WE WERE TAUGHT THAT JESUS WOULD ACT, BUT DON'T MISS AGAIN HOW SHE RESPONDS... NOT JUST WITH MORE GRIT, BUT ALSO WITH NO PRETENSES





OUR MOST LIFE CHANGING INTERACTION WITH JESUS WILL RARELY HAPPEN WHILE WE ARE STANDING ON OUR FEET. THEY USUALLY COME WHEN WE ARE ON OUR KNEES WITH THE REALIZATION OF WHO JESUS REALLY IS AND THAT WE HAVE NOTHING IN OURSELVES THAT WILL HELP US OUT OF OUR SITUATION





Matthew 15:26-27 (ESV)

26 And he answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."

27 She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."





THE LESSON FOR US ALL HERE IS THAT SOMETIMES GOD WILL USE A PROLONGED SEASON OF SILENCE OR DENIAL TO EXPOSE THINKING WHERE WE MAY NOT BE IN ALGINERT WITH HIM AND TO ALSO DRAW OUT OF US A REMARKABLY APPRECIATED DEBENING OF OUR FAITH, GRIII-ANDIRESIDE





Matthew 15:28 (ESV)

28 Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

THIS WOMENS FAITH, HER GRIT, WAS THE CATILIST TO HER ANSWERED PRAYER...





HOWEVER, FOR THOSE THAT DON'T GIVE UP ON GOD DURING THESE SEASONS OF DIFFICULTY, EVEN IF THEY DON'T RECEIVE ALL THAT THEY ARE ASKING FOR, THEY FIND THEY HAVE MORE FAITH, A DEEPENDED TRUST IN GOD'S CARE OVER THEM, AND MORE OF GOD'S PRESCENCE THAN THEY HAVIB BY BRIENCED BEEORIDAL





Matthew 11:4-6

4 And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: 5 the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. 6 And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."





AT SOME POINT IN OUR JOURNEY... EVERY BELEIVER FACES THE REALITES OF HAVING TO LEARN AND OPERATE AT HIGHER LEVELS IN THE "UPSIDE DOWN KIINDOM"







