

Puppy Chow

I. Slide#1 **Announce:**

- A. **Slide#2 Sunday Morning Prayer:** during each service in front office.
- B. **Slide#3 Family Camp:** July 15-18. **Flyer in info booth.** Next plan mtg June 17.
- C. **Slide#4 Father/Son Adventure:** June 27-29. Sign up info booth. \$140 pp.
- D. **Slide#5 5 Nights of Revival:** Starting Sun Night, June 2nd.
- E. **Slide#6 Memorial Day: We honor the brave.** Esp those who paid the ultimate sac for freedom.
 - 1. **Pray:** Soldiers who **don't** have the day off. Their safe return. Their families. Those that lost their lives to protect ours.

II. **Intro/Title:**

- A. **Slide#7** It happened in Southwest Asia in the 14th Century. The army of Asian conqueror **Emperor Tamerlane** (a descendant of Ghengis Khan) has been routed, dispersed by a powerful enemy. Tamerlane himself lay hidden in a deserted manger while enemy troops scoured the countryside. **As he lay there**, desperate and dejected, Tamerlane watched **an ant** try to carry a grain of corn over a perpendicular wall. **Slide#8** The kernel was larger than the ant itself. As the emperor counted, 69 times the ant tried to carry it up the wall. 69 times he fell back. On the 70th try he pushed the grain of corn over the top. Tamerlane leaped to his feet with a shout! He, too, would triumph in the end! And he did, reorganizing his forces & putting the enemy to flight.
 - 1. We love stories of those who **persevered**.

III. **Slide#9 PUPPY CHOW (24-30) - Title & read passage**

- A. **The brightest jewels are found in the darkest places!**
 - 1. This is the only occasion where Jesus ventures **beyond** the border of Israel.
 - 2. **Slide#10 Tyre & Sidon** – In the region of Phoenicia. Modern Lebanon.
 - a) They were 2 coastal towns on the Med. (30/40 N. of Capernaum)
 - b) They were the descendants of the Canaanites. (Gentile Country) [**map:** we'll do a circle clockwise]
 - 3. **Slide#11 Picture this women as a the bright jewel found in a dark place.**
- B. **Slide#12 FAITH SPEAKS**
- C. What 1st appears to be **rudeness**...I picture Jesus slowly turning a diamond, allowing the light to dance off each facet, enjoying every color it throws.
- D. **Also read Mt.15:21-28.**
- E. **Slide#13a The Silent Treatment** - Mt.15:23a **But He answered her not a word.**
 - 1. Her faith pushes on **despite** His **closed ear & closed mouth**.

2. Now **contrast that** w/individuals today who say, *unless I hear God I will not believe.*
 3. She shows incredible *Job like faith*, which didn't just say, "Though he **smite me...**", **but instead**, "*though He **slay me...yet will I trust him.***"
- F. **Slide#13b The Snubbing Treatment** - Mt.15:23 *Send her away, for she cries out after us.*
1. Her noise annoyed them.
 2. **She had many strikes against her:** [1] her **nationality** was against her [2] she was a **woman** in a male dominated world [3] **Satan** was against her (1 of his demons took control of his daughter) [4] the **disciples** were against her [5] and for a time it even **looked like Jesus** was against her.
 3. **Slide#14 Samuel Rutherford** (the saintly Scottish minister) who suffered greatly for Christ, once wrote to a friend, "*It is faith's work to claim and challenge loving-kindness out of all the roughest strokes of God.*"
 - a) And that's what this woman did!
 4. "*Send her away, for she cries out after us*" ...excuse me?...**"us"**?
 - a) No she never cried after **them**...only after **her Master**.
 5. **Men shouldn't treat a lady this way. Disciples shouldn't treat a seeker this way. Christians shouldn't treat anybody this way.**
 6. They tried to chase away this **she-dog** with rocks & sticks, **but** she wouldn't leave.
- G. **Slide#15 The Select Treatment** - Mt.15:24 *I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Is.*
1. This must have felt like *an elephant* sitting on her heart.
 - a) She could have said, "well then, He is not here for me." *Nope.*
 - b) Mt.15:25 says *then she came & worshiped Him, saying, Lord, help me!*
 - c) *Press through all obstacles & throw yourself at His feet. Knowing that, "the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out."*
- H. **Slide#16 FAITH ACKNOWLEDGES**
- I. Mark 7:28 **Yes, Lord.**
 1. She doesn't dispute that **Gentiles** were to Israel as **dogs** **but says**, "**Yes, Lord.**"
 - a) But she wasn't coming to him on **the goodness of her cause**, **but** on the **Goodness of His heart**. – **Not on** how she presented **her** plea, **but instead on** the excellence of **His power**.
 2. **It is our task to simply be empty...so He can fill us.**
It is our task to confess our filthiness...so He can wash us.
It is our task to be less than nothing...so He can be more than everything to us.
 3. **Slide#17a You're a dog** – Yes Lord, **but** I will *wag my tail, fetch, sit up, even beg* for my Master.

4. Slide#17b You're a **sheep** – Yes, Lord, **but** sheep need a shepherd!
5. Slide#17c You're a **cat** – No Lord, not a Cat!
 - a) Maybe we're most like a cat:
 - (1) A cat thinks the world revolves around them **and** their cat dish.
 - (2) They eat, lay around, & come near their master **only when they feel like it**.
 - (3) They make you feed them & even clean up their box after them.
 - (4) **And yet after all that**, He still graciously calls, "**here kitty, kitty!**"

J. Slide#18 **FAITH AGREES**

K. **Faith Pleads but never Disputes.**

1. **Note:** she never says, "**but**" or "**if**", not even "**yet**" (vs.28 not in orig.)
2. Faith in God implies **agreement** with what God says.
 - a) You are comparable to a little dog. – *Truth Lord. (Tru-dat)*
 - b) I can't feed the little dogs before the children. – *Truth, Lord, that wouldn't be right.*
 - c) It's not your time yet. – *Yes, Lord, 1st the children at meal time, ...but the dogs right after dinner right? :)*
3. Slide#19 **God's Word** is sometimes like a **salve** to a **wound**; **and other times** a **knife** that **cuts**, or a **sword** that **slays!** – **Don't fight against it** – Say, "**Truth Lord!**"

L. Slide#20 **FAITH ARGUES** (not argumentative)

M. Her arguments were **correct, strictly logical, & thorough.**

1. The best way to **reason** with a man **is** to take His own statements and argue upon them.
2. She was bold like **Jacob wrestling** with the angel, who even **overcame** the angel. The angel said, "**Let Me go, for the day breaks.**" But Jacob said, "**I will not let You go unless You bless me!**"

N. Slide#21a **Position**

1. Yes, **dog I am**, **but** you have come all the way here to Sidon.
 - a) I am **not** like the *scavenger dog* out in the street; I am a *little puppy* under your table.

O. Slide#21b **Relationship**

1. **Their masters table** - Mt.15:27 **Master.**
 - a) She could not call him **Father**. She could not **claim the privilege of a child**. But she could call Him **Master**. And Masters feed their dogs (at least crumbs).
 - b) The woman, being a **Gentile**, had *no covenant right* to come to Jesus and call Him "**Son of David**" (Matt. 15:22); **but** she could call Him "**Lord**" and have her prayer answered.
 - (1) **Jesus was not rude to her**; He was only **testing** and **strengthening her faith**.

2. Like the **prodigal** that came back content with just being one of his fathers **hired servants**.
 - a) She spied out a dog's relation to his master & made the most of it.
 - b) She is the only one we know of that ever answered Jesus' **mini-parables** back with a **mini-parable**.

P. **Slide#21c Children**

1. In the East, as a rule, a dog is not allowed indoors. **They are foul creatures that roam about uncared for & half wild**. They were very low on the food chain so to speak.
2. Adults wouldn't associate with them, **but** children knew nothing of this.
 - a) They would take them to join in with them in their sports, games, & ultimately be invited under the table. (excellent for getting rid of your Brussels Sprouts)
 - b) **So for the kids sake, they often were allowed under the table.**

Q. **Slide#21d Consent**

1. It is sure to get a crumb from one of its playmates.
2. **The children (Israel) have a full portion in You!** (in Your presence; Your Word; they sit at your feet; have obtained all sorts of spiritual blessings.)
 - a) I'm sure they can't begrudge my daughter to be free from this demon; For that would only be **a crumb** compared to all they have been blessed with.

R. **Slide#21e Abundance**

1. We're not talking **a poor man's table** who can't afford to lose a crumb; **but a Kings' table** where much is not even accounted for.
2. **If a man gives a dog a crumb he has none the less; If Jesus gives mercy to the greatest of sinners He has none the less.**
3. Since the beginning, it has always been God's plan that through **the children** (Israel) **the puppies** (Gentiles) should get the bread.

S. **Slide#22 FAITH WINS**

T. **For this saying...the demon has gone out.**

U. **Slide#23 Persistence**

1. **Not that she earned Christ's ear or earned His healing power.** Her **persistence** was only a demonstration that she **had faith**.
- V. What a great lesson to every mother. Mother's plead for your **daughters** & for your **sons** until you hear, **"O Woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire."** *Mt.15:28*
- W. Even a mother bird afraid of human footsteps will remain upon its nest when the intruder comes. [eg. diving birds - scare you walking under tree; then you turn around & watch others freak out]
1. Parents, be encouraged to pray for your children.

- X. **Lastly:** Jesus paid *the ultimate sacrifice for freedom, spiritual freedom*.
1. **In this case**, a little girls freedom from **severe demonic powers**.
 2. **In your case**, maybe today you need *His ultimate sacrifice for freedom* for your **sins**.
 3. **As we wrap up our service on this Memorial Day Weekend**, again we'll remember *the ultimate sacrifice for our physical freedom* many men & women paid for us. **Actually 1,321,600** men & women.
- Y. **Slide#24** End w/**Memorial day Video**