

THE FAITH OF A MOTHER





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Many mothers have saved their children through intercession, whether on their knees or through their actions. They have brought blessings on their children straight from the Lord. One amazing example of this is a mother whose name we do not even know, found in Matthew 15. “Jesus . . . withdrew into the district of Tyre and Sidon. And a Canaanite woman from that region came out and began to cry out, saying, ‘Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is cruelly demon-possessed’” (vv. 21-22). This mother couldn’t control her child, so she asked for God’s mercy.

Jesus’ response is very interesting: “He did not answer her a word” (v. 23). He didn’t say anything; in fact, it may have seemed that He was paying no attention to her at all because then the disciples came up to Him and asked Him: “Send her away because she keeps shouting at us” (v. 23). Since Jesus didn’t appear to be listening, the woman started shouting. She was driving the disciples crazy with her persistent yelling!

But Jesus didn't send her away like they asked. Instead, "He answered and said, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel,'" meaning that He came to take care of the Jews (v. 24). But she still didn't give up. "She came and began to bow down before Him, saying, 'Lord, help me!'" (v. 25). This woman was working it! First she asked for mercy, then she bowed down in worship. She didn't hear an answer, so she kept asking and worshipping God. This is such an excellent model for mothers who are interceding for their children, and for all of us as we present our requests to the Lord. When we don't hear yes or no, God is taking us deeper in faith by asking us to wait on Him and keep praying in faith.

After she bowed down before Jesus, He answered: "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs" (v. 26). Jesus may have seemed like He wasn't going to help her after He said this. She could have given up, but she kept on: "Yes, Lord, but even the dogs feed on the crumbs which fall from their masters' table" (v. 27).

She told Jesus that even a dog will hang around to feed off crumbs when he knows that his master is eating well. She said that she would hang around Jesus in hopes of getting some leftover crumbs from His table. She knew that His leftovers are better than the best meal she could come up with on her own. And then, Jesus honored her request because of her faith: "O woman, your faith is great; it shall be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed at once." (v. 28).

You may be asking why God hasn't answered your

prayer yet. You may have faith, but He wants you to become great in faith, just as He describes the great faith of the woman in Matthew 15. This is a lesson from a mother for a mother—having faith in God alone. This mother was against the odds, but she wouldn't give up on Jesus. As a result, her precious daughter was healed.

Mothers, you can have faith in the God who hears and the God who heals. If you will act in faith, God will work in your family, and He can save your family through His great power and gracious love. Keep trusting Him and keep the faith!





Raising Kingdom Kids

This book is for every dad or mom who wants to fulfill the parenting role God has given them—not just in raising healthy kids intellectually, physically, and socially, but in contributing to their child’s relationship with God and alignment under His plan.

ABOUT THE URBAN ALTERNATIVE

The Urban Alternative (TUA) is a Christian broadcast ministry founded over 30 years ago by Dr. Tony Evans. At TUA, we seek to promote a kingdom agenda philosophy designed to enable people to live all of life underneath the comprehensive rule of God. This is accomplished through a variety of means, including media, resources, clergy ministries and community impact training.

The Urban Alternative’s daily radio broadcast airs on nearly 1,000 radio outlets in America and in over 100 countries worldwide. Find us online at TonyEvans.org.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Tony Evans is the founder and president of The Urban Alternative, a national ministry dedicated to restoring hope and transforming lives through the proclamation and application of God’s Word. For over three decades, Dr. Evans has also served as senior pastor of Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship in Dallas. He is a prolific author of numerous books, including the best-selling Kingdom Man. His radio program, “The Alternative with Dr. Tony Evans,” is heard daily on nearly 1,000 radio outlets. Dr. Evans is also the chaplain for the Dallas Mavericks and former chaplain for the Dallas Cowboys.

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