

Scripture

Mark 7:24-37 (NLT)

The Faith of a Gentile Woman

7:24 Then Jesus left Galilee and went north to the region of Tyre. He didn't want anyone to know which house he was staying in, but he couldn't keep it a secret.

25 Right away a woman who had heard about him came and fell at his feet. Her little girl was possessed by an evil spirit,
26 and she begged him to cast out the demon from her daughter.

Since she was a Gentile, born in Syrian Phoenicia, 27 Jesus told her, “**First I should feed the children - my own family, the Jews. It isn't right to take food from the children and throw it to the dogs.**”

28 She replied, “That's true, Lord, but even the dogs under the table are allowed to eat the scraps from the children's plates.”

29 “**Good answer!**” he said. “**Now go home, for the demon has left your daughter.**” 30

And when she arrived home, she found her little girl lying quietly in bed, and the demon was gone.

Jesus Heals a Deaf Man

31 Jesus left Tyre and went up to Sidon before going back to the Sea of Galilee and the region of the Ten Towns. **32** A deaf man with a speech impediment was brought to him, and the people begged Jesus to lay his hands on the man to heal him.

33 Jesus led him away from the crowd so they could be alone. He put his fingers into the man's ears. Then, spitting on his own fingers, he touched the man's tongue.

- 34 Looking up to heaven, he sighed and said, “**Ephphatha**,” which means, “**Be opened!**” 35 Instantly the man could hear perfectly, and his tongue was freed so he could speak plainly!
- 36 Jesus told the crowd not to tell anyone, but the more he told them not to, the more they spread the news.
- 37 They were completely amazed and said again and again, “Everything he does is wonderful. He even makes the deaf to hear and gives speech to those who cannot speak.”