God of Compassion

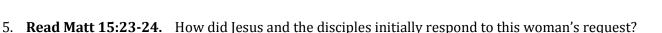
Matthew 15:21-39

Getting Started

Tell about one of your best friends from another country or culture.

Digging In

- 1. **Read Matthew 15:21-22.** Describe the woman who came to Jesus.
- 2. What kind of relationship did the Jews have with the Canaanites?
- 3. What problem did the woman bring to Jesus?
- 4. Based on v. 22, who did the woman believe Jesus to be?



- 6. **Read Matt 15:25-28**. Do you think Jesus was being harsh in v. 26? Why or why not?
- 7. How is the woman's persistence seen in these verses?
- 8. **Read Matt 15:29-31**. What kinds of needs were the people bringing to Jesus? How did he respond?
- 9. **Read Matt 15:32-39**. How else did Jesus demonstrate his compassion for the people's physical needs?
- 10. Comparing the Feeding of the 4000 with the Feeding of the 5000 (Matt 14:13-21), what are the similarities? What are the differences?
- 11. What do we learn about Jesus from Matt 15:21-39?

Getting Personal

- If God has compassion on all people, what does this imply about our attitude toward those of other races and religions?
- If God is concerned not just about people's spiritual needs, but also about their physical needs, what are the implications for us?
- How do you see these two concerns working together concern for people's spiritual needs and physical needs?
- How can we at Shoestring demonstrate God's concern for the physical needs of those around us? Be specific. (Use the back if necessary.)

