

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 16, 2020



4600 REED ROAD, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77051-2857
Parish Office: 713.738.2311; Fax: 713.738.3337
CCE Office: 713.731.2775; SVdP Food Pantry: 713.731.2716
WEB Address: <http://www.sfxhouston.com>
E-MAIL: stfrancishou@sfxhouston.com
Parish Office Hours: Tues-Wed 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Fri 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; Closed on Mon & Thur
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/StFrancisXavierCatholicChurchHouston>

MISSION STATEMENT

We, with the grace of the Holy Spirit, proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ as expressed in the beliefs and traditions of the Holy Roman Catholic Church. Through a passion for righteousness and consciousness of duty to God, we uphold the faithful worship of God in our mission to our church family and the Sunnyside Community.

PASTOR:

Rev. Michael K. Saah-Buckman, SSJ

DEACONS:

Michael V. Jenkins

Darryl K. Drenon

Frank J. Laugermann (Retired)

PARISH SECRETARY

Shirley M. Foreman.....x113

DIR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Unella Baber.....x103

ADULT FORMATION

Deacon Michael V. Jenkins

SVdP FOOD PANTRY

Curtis Jones 713.731.2716

CONTRIBUTIONS/MEMBERSHIP

Agnes Thompson

HALL MANAGER

Hilton S. Williams 713.542.0120

PLANT MANAGER

Anthony Ray Gobert

MAINTENANCE

Violet & Harold Champ

NEW WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Sat: Vigil 5:00 p.m.

Sun: 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday: 7:00 a.m.

First Friday: 7:00 a.m.

Holy Days: 7:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 4:15p.m. - 4:45p.m.

Sundays: 6:45a.m. - 7:15a.m.

9:20a.m. - 9:45a.m.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

First Friday: 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

CHOIR REHEARSALS:

Adult Choirs

Judah Choir:

SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

God's Chosen Choir:

SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Youth Choir:

SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

BIBLE STUDY/

ADULT CATHECHISM:

SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

CHOIR DIRECTORS:

Jerry Givens 281.772.9276

Daniel Guerrero 281.723.9948

VISITATION OF THE SICK

Communion for the sick and shut-in is available. Please call the parish office to make arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the parish office for information. Preparation classes are required for parents and godparents.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact a priest a minimum of six months prior to proposed date.

WELCOME VISITORS AND NEWCOMERS

To register, call, come by the parish office or visit our website at: www.sfxhouston.com

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MASS INTENTIONS

NOTE: THE SUNDAY 12:15PM MASS INTENTIONS HAVE BEEN MOVED TO THE 10:00AM MASS.

SAT. 08/15/2020 5:00PM

Kristina M. Chaney (D)
Family & Friends
Leo E. Prescott, Sr. (D)
Wanda Johnson & Florence
Henry & Louisiana Green (D)
Agnes Thompson

James Epps (D) – The Epps Family
Sidney B. Sam (D) – Aaronetta Sam Wiltz

SUN. 08/16/2020 7:30AM

People of the Parish

SUN. 08/16/2020 10:00AM

Oscar Jiles (D)
James & Bonnie Jefferson
Kristina M. Chaney (D)
Family & Friends
Rev. August Thompson (D)
Madalene White
Patrick Martell (D) – The Chaney Family
Ruby Mose (D) – Tywana Navy
Amy Landry Gallow & Dallas Gallow, Sr.
Wanda Dixon/Family

MON. 08/17/2020 7:00AM

Gaston Joseph (D)
Sr. Theresa Sue Joseph, SSF
Yvonne Mullone (D) – Sylvia Spencer

TUE. 08/18/2020 7:00AM

Joseph Broussard (D)
Bernadette Mitchell
Rev. Michael K. Saah-Buckman, SSJ (L)
The Chaney Family

WED. 08/19/2020 7:00AM

Dr. Ulysses Watkins, Jr. (D)
Tywana Navy
Peter Buckman (D) – The Chaney Family

THUR. 08/20/2020 7:00AM

Mildred Provost (D) – Mary Provost
All Healthcare Essentials and Their Families (L) – Grateful Neighbors

FRI. 08/21/2020 7:00AM

Ruth Celestine (L)
SFX Sisters in the Spirit
Earlene Duplechine (D)
The Duplechine Family



Deacon Alfred Abram, Julius Cadoree, Margaret Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Mary Augustine Chenier, Dalton Cooper Jr., Nicole Fontenet, Barbara Forte', Ursula Gross, Jimmy Harris, Willie Mae Henderson, Brooke Joseph, Irma Kelly, Kennedy Family Members, Ann Kennerson, Helen Kennison, JoAnn LaSane, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Cynthia Ann Malone, Shannon Martin, Willie Martin Jr., Dorothy Milstead, Carson Morris, Vy. Rev. William L. Norvel, SSJ, Carolyn Ollison, Helen Foreman Orsot, Betty Patrick, Cynethia Pichon, William Pierre Sr., Sheryl Pratts, Marcelle Prevost, Carole Pryor, Sarah Pugh, Elise Richmond, Evelyn Roberts, Wilson Robertson, Oliver Rose, Simon Smith, Joyce Stagg, MacKenzie Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Erma Taylor, Agnes Williams, Patricia Williams, Sharon Zenon Williams, and all the sick and shut-in in our parish family.

Let us Know

Please let us know when you and/or a family member are ill, in the hospital, or having a surgery, especially if the illness or surgery is serious. Call the Parish Office so that we can put the name on the sick list for prayers and/or visitation if needed. **After 30 days, please call the office to remain on the prayer list.**

Lord, we pray for all our current military service members and first responders who put their own lives on the line every day in order to protect our families and our country.

Army:

Barbara Baber, Sade Beck, Wadie Troy Butler, Shanta Charles, Josiah Charles, Patrick Clay Jr, Stephen Jones, LaTroy King, Gary Christian Robertson, Anthony Lamar Smith II, David Stagnoli, Jordan T. McCorkle, Essence L. Casteel

Navy:

Alvin Balthazar, Debreaanna Brown, Jermaine Ceaser, Kevin Crockett, Courtney Harris, Nia D. Hawkins, Randolph J. Navy III, Anthony N. Russell, Christian Johnson, Hope Bethany Johnson

Air Force:

Roderick Jones, Joffre Lander, Bena Sellers, Terrance J Valiare, Thomas Q Valiare II

Marines

Alyssa Dugar, Reginald Ward

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Monday..... Closed
Tuesday.....9:00am to 5:00pm
Wednesday.... 9:00am to 5:00pm
Thursday..... Closed
Friday..... 9:00am to 3:00pm

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



God's grace in the world is boundless and always has been. Isaiah tells the Israelites that foreigners will be brought to God's holy mountain to worship, to pray, and to celebrate. Paul refers to himself as "apostle to the Gentiles," bringing news of God's mercy to all. Jesus heals the daughter of the Canaanite woman who persists in her pursuit of him. Let us listen to God's word and contemplate the boundaries we are called to break down.

READINGS

FOR THE WEEK

Sunday – August 16

The 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 56:1, 6-7
Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8
Romans 11:13-15, 29-32
Matthew 15:21-28

Monday – August 17

Ezekiel 24:15-23
(Psalm) Deuteronomy 32:18-19, 20, 21
Matthew 19:16-22

Tuesday – August 18

Ezekiel 28:1-10
(Psalm) Deuteronomy 32:26-27, 28, 30, 35-36
Matthew 19:23-30

Wednesday – July 19

Saint John Eudes, Priest
Ezekiel 34:1-11
Psalm 23:1-3, 4, 5, 6
Matthew 20:1-16

Thursday – August 20

Saint Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church
Ezekiel 36:23-28
Psalm 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19
Matthew 22:1-14

Friday – August 21

Saint Pius X, Pope
Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9
Matthew 22:34-40

Saturday – August 22

The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Ezekiel 43:1-7
Psalm 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14
Matthew 23:1-12



Visit the Parish Website:
www.sfxhouston.com
and click on the Facebook icon at the bottom of the page.



CCE Registration will begin on **August 31st**. Saturday Classes for Pre-K thru 5th grade will start on **October 10th** and Monday Classes for 6th grade thru High School on **October 12th**. Any questions please call the CCE Dept at **(713) 731-2775** on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday from 9:30am-3:00pm.



As the school year quickly approaches, St. Mary of the Purification has the following employment opportunities:

- 2 Full-time Teacher Aides in Pre-K 3 thru Kindergarten
- 4 Aftercare Workers

Interested candidates should send an Email to the principal, Mrs. Lois Goudeau,

lgoudeau@stmaryshouston.school.org.

RCIA

The initiation of catechumens and candidates will be scheduled at an appropriate time before the year ends. Registration for the 2020-2021 Class is available on the Parish Website:

www.sfxhouston.com



FOOD DRIVE

On **August 29th**, from 10am-2pm, the Young Adult Christian Ministry is

helping the SVdP Food Pantry host a Food Drive at St. Francis Xavier Parish. At least six (6) volunteers are needed from every Parish organization to make the Food Drive successful (**Pastoral Council, Choir, Ushers, Altar Servers, Lectors, Eucharist Ministers, KPC Ladies, KPC Knights, KPC Juniors, 55 Plus, CCE Teachers, and the Congregation**). Call the Parish Office or sign up in the vestibule of the Church and the Harris Center Lobby. Volunteers should arrive at 8:45am on the 29th.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH FALL RAFFLE



Grand Prize!

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2nd Prize....\$1000.00 Gift Card

3rd Prize.....\$500.00 Gift Card

4th Prize.....\$400.00 Gas Card

5th Prize.\$300.00 Macy's Card

Tickets are \$5.00 each or a book of 20 for \$100.00. Each household is asked to sell at least 2 books.

Drawing: **October 18, 2020** after the 10:00am Mass.

Winner Need Not Be Present

Did you know that Catholics can make an Act of Spiritual Communion?

When unable to receive Holy Communion, pray the prayer below:

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion
My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, Come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Stewardship Reflection

That we may show our gratitude for God's great gifts through our active participation in the ministry of God's Church. "For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable." Romans 11:29 God has a special mission in mind for each of us. He has given us the gifts we need to accomplish that mission. We are called to be good stewards by using those gifts to do the work that He has planned for each of us. If we deny our gifts or fail to use them as God calls us to use them, then some part of His work will be left undone.



Joseph Fontenet passed away on August 5, 2020 at the age of 72. Joseph is survived by his wife, Annie Fontenet, and their children. A Funeral Mass was celebrated on August 13th.

Lawrence Duplechain passed away on August 7, 2020 at the age of 86. Lawrence is survived by his wife, Mary Duplechain, and their children. A Funeral Mass was celebrated on August 15th.

Ronald Walcott passed away on August 8, 2020 at the age of 75. Ron is survived by his wife, Gemma Walcott, and their children. A Funeral Mass was celebrated on August 14th.

PREPARE NOW TO VOTE



Oct 5.....Last day to register to vote

Oct 23.....Last day to request an at-home ballot

Oct 13-Oct 30...Early in-person voting

Nov 3.....Election Day

ATTENDANCE

Attendance on August 8th and 9th was **137**. The online count for the 7:30am Livestream was **40**. Please join us on Facebook, or bring a friend and come worship with us in the church. You must wear a mask to attend all services in the church.



PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

We encourage all parishioners to take the **Vocation Chalice** home for a week and pray for vocations. The sign-up sheet is located in the vestibule of the Church.



SFX GABRIEL PROJECT

Pregnant? Need Help?
 Call 713-225-5826

WE NEED PERSISTENT FAITH TODAY

Happy Sunday! Today's Gospel about the Canaanite woman gives me hope. Her persistent faith gives me hope because she was in a helpless situation with her daughter and put her full trust in Jesus that He was the answer. We need the Canaanite woman's kind of faith in our world today.

I am sure that all of you would agree that we all need her faith and we need prayer today for the things that are happening in our nation and in our world. Today we fear the spread of infectious diseases. We fear climate change. We fear the condition of our economy. We are frustrated with racial inequality. Some people are turning to violence. They are turning to violence instead of turning to God.

The Gospel today teaches us to pray always and not to lose heart. It is about being tenacious in prayer, continuing to call upon the Lord even when the results are discouraging. It is also about the Lord's will to extend the Gospel to all the nations, whether it's Jews or foreigners.

So we read in Matthew, "*And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, 'Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon.'*" Now the Canaanites were despised by Jews and Jews were despised by Canaanites. Their hatred for each other went back over a thousand years. The Jews felt that the Canaanites were a sinful race that embodied all that is evil and godless. The Jews even referred to them as dogs.

So...what is it that would make a Canaanite woman reach out to a Jewish Messiah? Desperation. She no longer cares who helps her daughter as long as someone helps her!

- How many of us feel desperate about our Nation today?
- Some of us may feel desperate, like the Canaanite woman, about a family member today. We may have a son or daughter or relative who has strayed away from God
- Some of us may feel desperate about trouble with our spouse.
- Some of us may feel desperate about our finances and making ends meet.
- Some of us may feel desperate about some bad news we received about our health.

And we've turned to God and he seems not to answer our prayers. Brothers and sisters know this... **God is aware, and he is in control.** Even though we may not understand, He wants us to have faith and recognize his power.

The Canaanite woman, even though her people were adversaries of the Jews, had likely heard of Jesus' power to save and heal. In turning to Jesus, she looked past their racial divide and, risking terrible rebuke, called on Him. It is her torment that enabled her to cross the boundaries.

The only enemy she cared about was the demon afflicting her daughter. But when she came to Jesus, His initial reaction did not appear to be the compassionate Jesus that we know he is. He was at first silent, then he snubbed her for being a foreigner and likened her to a dog.

The scripture says, **But Jesus did not say a word in answer to her. Jesus' disciples came and asked him, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us." He said in reply, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ... "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs."** Brothers and sisters, it is a very strange to hear such a thing from the mouth of the Lord, who had already journeyed among the Samaritans and Gentiles, healing them and often praising their faith. So you may wonder, why would Jesus do this?

I believe it was because he was testing her. Jesus knows she will grow by the test. Through this test, Jesus increased the woman's faith. Jesus tested her like God tested others in Scripture. Remember... God tested Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Job, and many others.

We are tested as well. And sometimes, God seems to be strangely silent. When we send up our prayers to God, in the form of a request, we sometimes grow impatient when our prayers aren't answered immediately. Sometimes we will think, this is too many times I have asked God for something specific and it hasn't happened. So we lose heart.

We all want change to happen in our lives, but too often we want it now...not later. When it doesn't happen that way, we are tempted to ask, "When, God, when?" And many of us need to grow in the area of being patient and trusting God instead of focusing on the "when" question. Though God may seem silent, He is working His purposes out and seeking to increase our faith.

When I was young, I grew up in a Baptist church and they used to say all of the time, '**God may not come when you want him, but he's always right on time**'. Those of you who are parents should understand this. What parent among you has not had to do the same for your child? For example,

what if your children are untested and untried? What if they get their every wish and they never have to wait? What happens? They become spoiled, self-centered, and are headed for ruin... You don't want this for your children and God doesn't want this for us. God knows exactly what He is doing. Again, **God is aware, and he is in control.**

What the Canaanite woman shows us is that we need to be persistent in our faith and persistent in our prayer. We see that the woman is not put off. Whatever anger, grief, or discouragement she may feel, she perseveres. She trusts that the Lord will make a way. She will not take no for an answer.

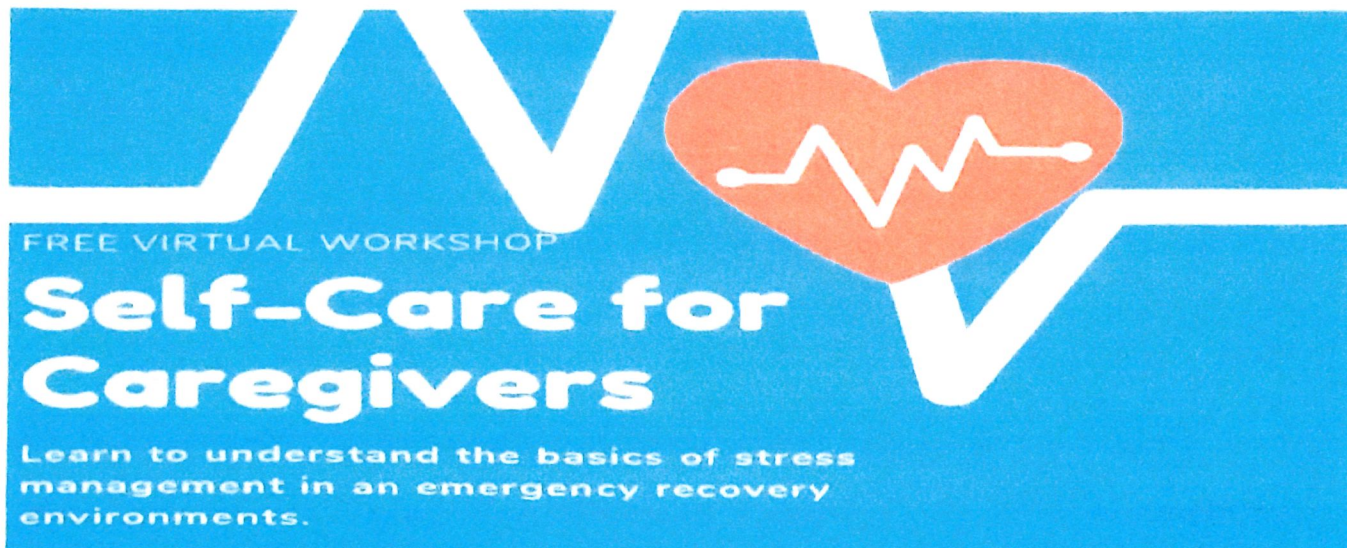
- She is like the widow and the unjust judge; who never stopped pestering the judge until she received a favorable ruling.
- She is like the blind man at the side of the road who kept calling for Jesus despite the rebuke of the crowds.
- She is like Zacchaeus, who overcame his short stature by climbing a tree to see Jesus.
- She is like the widow with the hemorrhage, who, though weak and ritually unclean, pressed through the crowd and grabbed the hem of Jesus' garments.

Brothers and sisters, the Canaanite woman withstood the test of Jesus and persisted. She held out until the change, which was the healing she desired for her daughter, was accomplished. She did not give up nor let go of Jesus...

- no matter how unwilling He seemed
 - no matter how politically incorrect her request appeared
 - no matter how much hostility she encountered from the disciples, the crowds, or even Jesus Himself.
- She held out. She stayed turned toward Jesus. **How about you?** Will we give way during the test or hold out until our change comes? Will our faith grow or wither? Will our love grow stronger or will it change to resentment? The woman had the victory. **Jesus** said to her, "*O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.*"

And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour. She went from desperation to triumph by her tenacious and tested faith. I pray that we all can have her faith. Our world needs it today. God will answer our prayers in His time. And what he will give us, will be better than that we ask. He'll give us exactly what we need.

Deacon Darryl Drenon



Workshop Description

A child's ability to cope with stressful situations is largely dependent upon their caregivers' coping strategies. Children learn how to react and manage their emotions by observing the adults around them. This workshop is delivered to caregivers to ensure their needs are address before supporting the needs of others. By the end of the workshop participants will be able to have a greater understanding of their needs and plans on how to integrate holistic self-care techniques into their daily routine.

The Helping Caregivers Cope (HCC) Workshop is designed to:

1. Allow caregivers a time to reflect on their current needs so they are better prepared to meet the needs of the children, families and other caregivers they serve.
2. Give caregivers the opportunity to discuss well-being, explore the types and sources of stress they are currently managing, coping mechanisms used and setting goals for future self-care.
3. To provide the time and space needed for reflection and processing, sharing and community-building, amplifying strengths and discovering solutions.

Technology

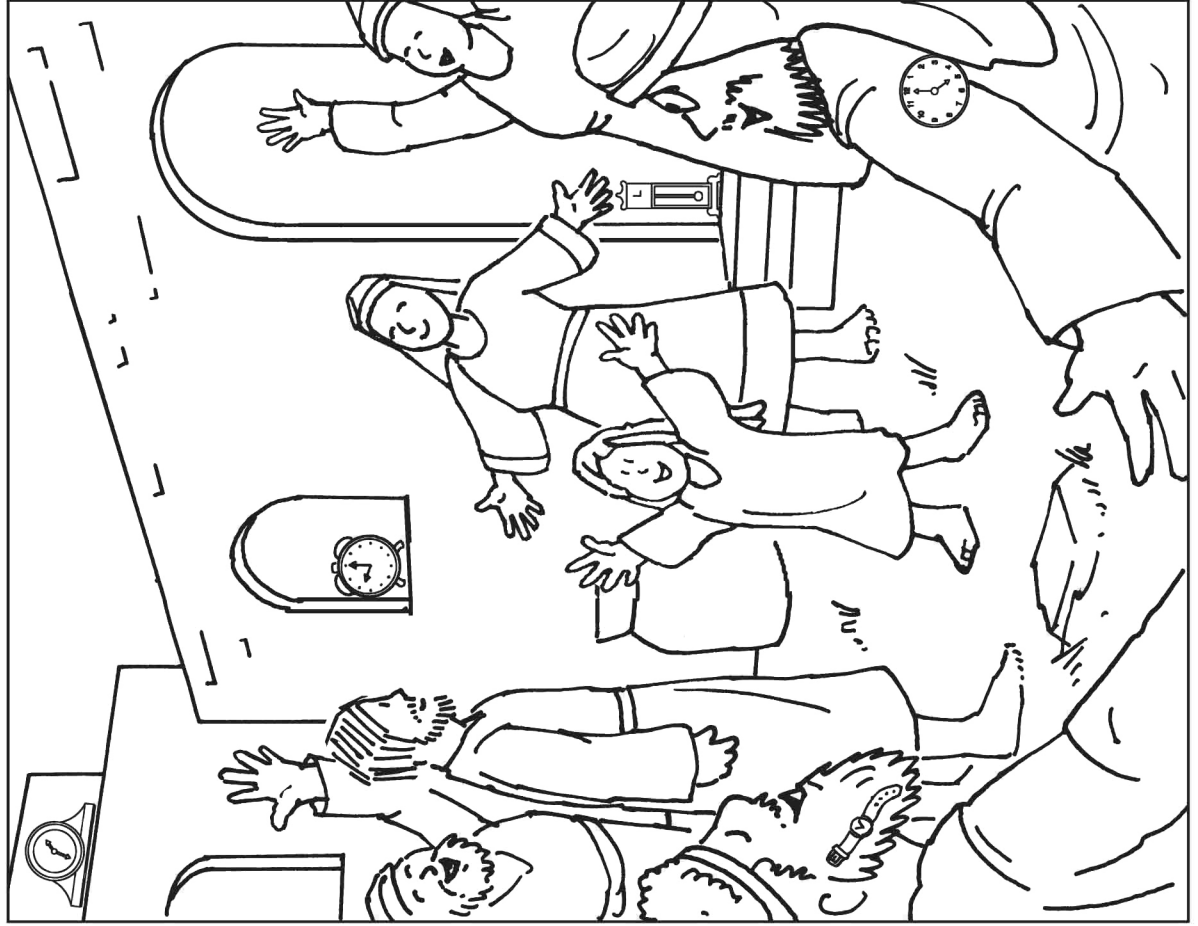
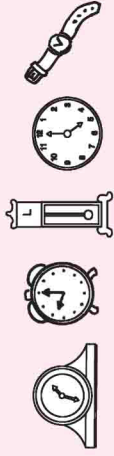
1. Workshop is held virtually via Zoom. Participants may log on to their zoom accounts using a phone or computer.
2. Facilitators prefer you have your camera on as a participant. Some participants may find that they are unable to have their camera on because of bandwidth. Ensure you have access to good WIFI.
3. Consider facing the window or light source so you do not become a shadow.
4. Participants will use the chat function as well as unmuting to actively participate in the workshop.
5. During the workshop participants should have access to a confidential area or use headphones to maintain the confidentiality of other workshop participants.

Sponsored by



Jesus healed her daughter that very hour.

Circle these hidden objects in the picture.

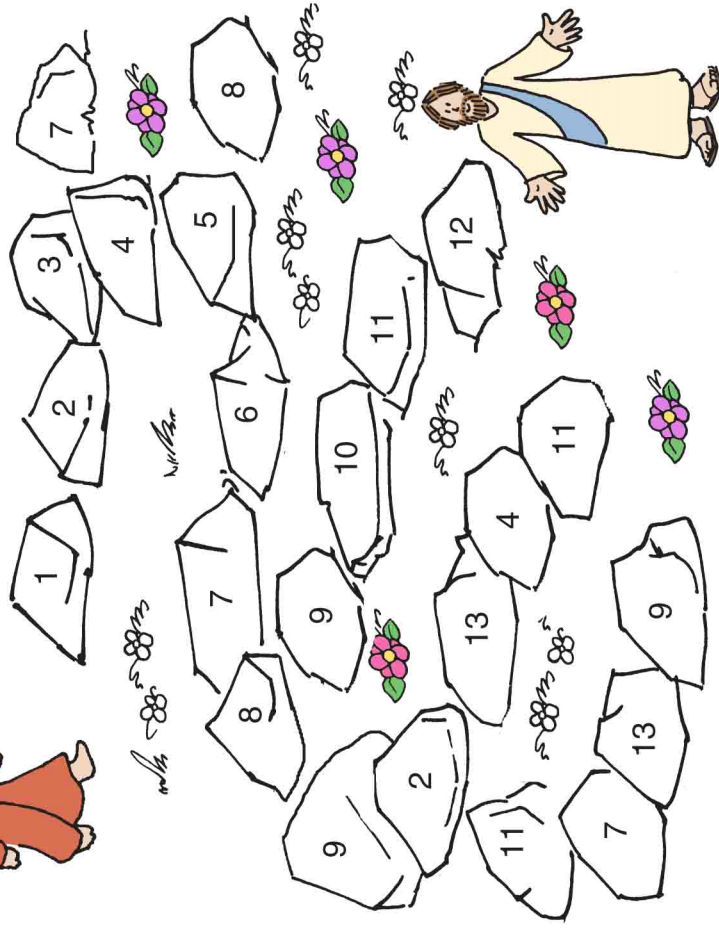


A Woman's Faith

A woman asked Jesus to heal her daughter.

Help the woman get to Jesus.

- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12



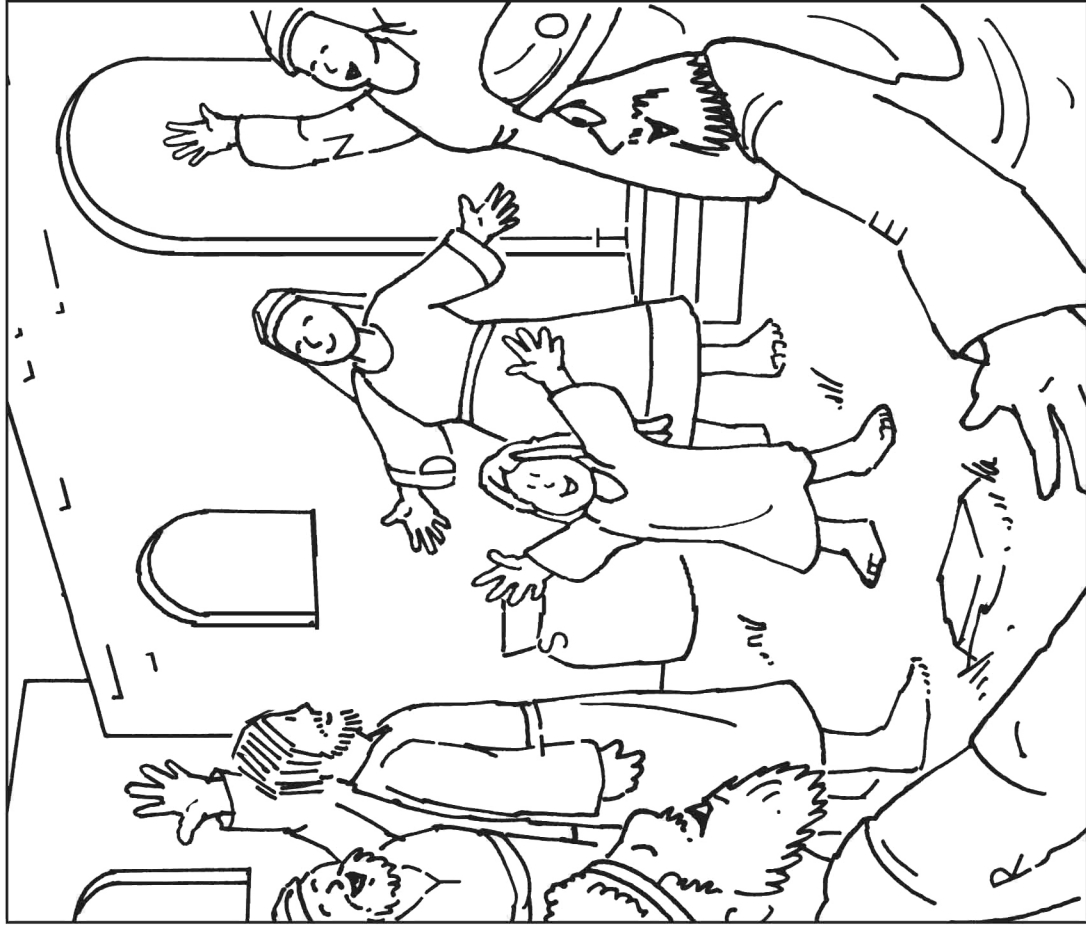
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SECRET CODE!
NEPSS8



This all took place in the region of Tyre and Sidon

Find these letters in the picture below: TYRE SIDON.

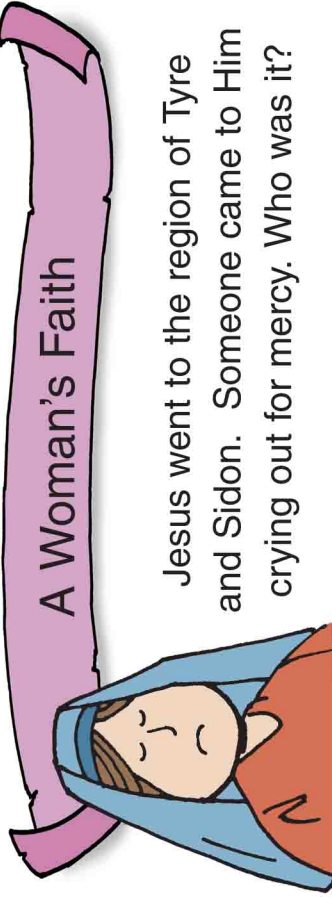


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Ages 7+

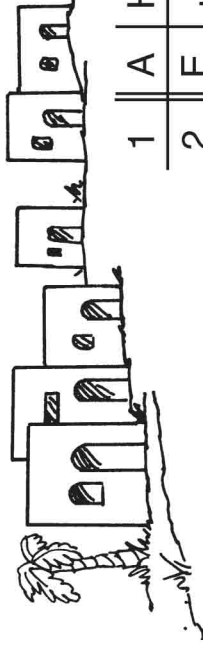
August 16, 2020 • Matthew 15:10-20, 21-28

A Woman's Faith



Jesus went to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Someone came to Him crying out for mercy. Who was it?

Use the graph to find the answer.



1	A	H	P	R	M
2	E	J	A	E	O
3	G	T	I	L	P
4	N	S	W	U	A
5	N	C	Z	N	B
	6	7	8	9	10

2,8

5,7 4,10 4,6 1,6 2,8 5,9 3,8 3,7 2,6

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