

Matthew 15:21-28

The Common English Bible

¹⁰Jesus called the crowd near and said to them, “Listen and understand. ¹¹It’s not what goes into the mouth that contaminates a person in God’s sight. It’s what comes out of the mouth that contaminates the person.” ¹²Then the disciples came and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees were offended by what you just said?” ¹³Jesus replied, “Every plant that my heavenly Father didn’t plant will be pulled up. ¹⁴Leave the Pharisees alone. They are blind people who are guides to blind people. But if a blind person leads another blind person, they will both fall into a ditch.” ¹⁵Then Peter spoke up, “Explain this riddle to us.” ¹⁶Jesus said, “Don’t you understand yet? ¹⁷Don’t you know that everything that goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸But what goes out of the mouth comes from the heart. And that’s what contaminates a person in God’s sight. ¹⁹Out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adultery, sexual sins, thefts, false testimonies, and insults. ²⁰These contaminate a person in God’s sight. But eating without washing hands doesn’t contaminate in God’s sight.”

²¹From there, Jesus went to the regions of Tyre and Sidon. ²²A Canaanite woman from those territories came out and shouted, “Show me mercy, Son of David. My daughter is suffering terribly from demon possession.” ²³But he didn’t respond to her at all. His disciples came and urged him, “Send her away; she keeps shouting out after us.” ²⁴Jesus replied, “I’ve been sent only to the lost sheep, the people of Israel.” ²⁵But she knelt before him and said, “Lord, help

me.” ²⁶He replied, “It is not good to take the children’s bread and toss it to dogs.” ²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord. But even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall off their masters’ table.” ²⁸Jesus answered, “Woman, you have great faith. It will be just as you wish.” And right then her daughter was healed.

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 133

The Common English Bible

¹Look at how good and pleasing it is when families live together as one!

²It is like expensive oil poured over the head, running down onto the beard - Aaron’s beard! - which extended over the collar of his robes.

³It is like the dew on Mount Hermon streaming down onto the mountains of Zion,

because it is there that the Lord has commanded the blessing: everlasting life.

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

The Common English Bible

¹So I ask you, has God rejected his people? Absolutely not! I'm an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a}God hasn't rejected his people, whom he knew in advance... ²⁹God's gifts and calling can't be taken back. ³⁰Once you were disobedient to God, but now you have mercy because they were disobedient. ³¹In the same way, they have also been disobedient because of the mercy that you received, so now they can receive mercy too. ³²God has locked up all people in disobedience, in order to have mercy on all of them.