



LORD HELP ME TO  
HOLDOUT UNTIL  
MY CHANGE  
COMES!  
MATTHEW 15:21-28

DR. DARRYL T. CANADY.  
RODMAN STREET  
CHURCH

7.20.25



# **LORD HELP ME TO HOLD OUT UNTIL MY CHANGE COMES!**

**MATTHEW 15:21-28**

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Title: "Lord, Help Me Hold Out: The Power of Persistent Faith"

Sermon Summary: This powerful sermon explores the themes of persistence, faith, and divine deliverance through the story of the Canaanite woman in Matthew 15. This woman's journey from desperation to deliverance teaches us that our breakthrough often comes through unwavering determination. We're encouraged to cry out to Jesus, even when circumstances seem dire or responses are delayed.

The parallel drawn with the Chinese bamboo tree beautifully illustrates how faith works - though we may not see immediate results, our consistent nurturing of faith will eventually lead to exponential growth. This message challenges us to hold onto hope, especially in times of silence or rejection, reminding us that God's timing is perfect and that even a 'crumb' of His power is greater than a feast without Him.

It's a call for us to persist in prayer, service, and belief, knowing that our 'request has been granted' in the spiritual realm, even before we see the manifestation. The pastor emphasizes the importance of holding onto faith even in desperate situations, remaining determined in the face of obstacles, and trusting in God's ultimate deliverance. The sermon connects this biblical narrative to the modern-day struggles and

aspirations of the congregation and their community, encouraging believers to persist in prayer and faith until their "change comes."

## **Chapters**

### **Chapter 1: The Desperate Cry of Faith**

We explore the story of a desperate Canaanite woman seeking help from Jesus for her demon-possessed daughter.

### **Chapter 2: Determination in the Face of Adversity**

We learn about the woman's determination and refusal to give up, even when faced with rejection and obstacles.

### **Chapter 3: Deliverance Through Persistent Faith**

We witness the woman's faith rewarded as Jesus grants her request and heals her daughter.

## **Key Points:**

- Desperation can be the beginning of transformation
- Determination in faith can overcome rejection and silence from others
- God's deliverance often follows persistent, determined faith
- The Community of Hope vision requires persistent faith and action
- Even a "crumb" from Christ is more powerful than a feast without Him
- Faith that endures is rewarded with miracles and breakthroughs
- God's blessings often exceed our expectations when we don't limit our requests
- God's granting of requests is final and authoritative

### **Scripture Reference:**

- Matthew 15:21-28 (The story of the Canaanite woman)

### **Stories:**

- The Chinese Bamboo Tree: Used as an analogy for faith and persistence, describing how the tree doesn't visibly grow for years but then suddenly shoots up rapidly
- The founding of the LIFE MALE STEAM ACADEMY during the COVID-19 pandemic, illustrating the church's persistence in fulfilling their vision despite obstacles
- Personal anecdotes of the Pastor and his wife overcoming cancer while continuing to pursue their ministry goals

Here are the scripture references mentioned or alluded to in the sermon, along with some relevant verses that align with the main themes:

### **SCRIPTURES:**

#### **Explicitly Mentioned:**

1. Matthew 15:21-28 (The main text of the sermon)
2. Matthew 11:28
3. 1 Peter 5:7
4. Galatians 6:9

#### **Alluded to or Thematically Relevant:**

1. James 1:3-4 (Perseverance in faith)
2. Hebrews 11:1 (Definition of faith)

3. Luke 18:1-8 (Parable of the Persistent Widow)
4. Romans 12:12 (Persevering in prayer)
5. Philippians 4:6-7 (Bringing requests to God)
6. Mark 11:24 (Faith in prayer)
7. Matthew 17:20 (Faith as small as a mustard seed)
8. Isaiah 40:31 (Waiting on the Lord)
9. Psalm 27:14 (Waiting on the Lord)
10. Romans 8:28 (God working all things for good)
11. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (Not losing heart in trials)
12. Hebrews 10:35-36 (Perseverance and receiving what is promised)
13. James 5:16 (The power of prayer)
14. Ephesians 3:20 (God able to do immeasurably more)
15. Jeremiah 29:11 (God's plans to prosper)

These verses align with the sermon's themes of persistent faith, holding onto hope, and trusting in God's timing and promises.

### **SERMON QUOTES:**

Lord, help me to hold out until my change comes.

Desperation makes you cry out louder than your pride. Desperation pushes you past your protocol. Desperation doesn't care who's watching, who's listening, who's judging you, or who is uncomfortable.

Sometimes your desperation is the beginning of your transformation.

When you are determined, resistance doesn't break you. It builds you up.

A crumb from Christ is more powerful than a feast without Him.

Jesus ignored her at first, but He never forgot her. He tested her, but He did not turn her away. He stretched her, but He never stopped loving her.

She didn't get what she wanted because she begged hard enough. She didn't get what she needed because she argued long enough. No, she received her miracle because her faith endured long enough.

Your request is granted. This is not just a response. This is a release. This is not just permission. This is power.

When God says your request has been granted, Satan cannot block it, people cannot cancel it, the devil cannot delay it, and doubt cannot destroy it.

It's not by power. It's not by might. But by faith you held on and you held up.

We believe that if we stay faithful, we will see sons who were written off walk in the college classrooms. Families who were stuck in generational curses walking in freedom. Communities that once was labeled hopeless walk in healing, housing, and wholeness.

Heaven is moving on your behalf. The miracle is already in motion. The healing is already being released. God says it's already granted.

**When God  
says it's time,  
things happen  
quickly.  
BE READY**

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**Here's a 5-day Bible reading plan and devotional guide based on the themes from the transcription:**

**Day 1: Persistent Faith in the Face of Silence**

**Reading: Matthew 15:21-28**

**Devotional:**

The Canaanite woman's encounter with Jesus teaches us about persistent faith. Despite initial silence and apparent rejection, she continued to cry out to Jesus. In our own lives, we may face periods where God seems silent or distant. However, this story encourages us to keep pressing in, to keep praying, and to keep believing.

Reflect on a time when you felt God was silent. How did you respond? The woman's persistence ultimately led to her daughter's healing and Jesus commending her faith. Consider how you can cultivate this kind of tenacious faith in your own life, especially during challenging times.

Prayer: Lord, help me to hold out in faith, even when I don't see or hear Your response immediately. Strengthen my resolve to keep seeking You, trusting that You hear every cry of my heart.

## **Day 2: The Power of Desperation**

**Reading: Psalm 34:17-18**

### **Devotional:**

The sermon highlighted how desperation often drives us closer to God. The Psalmist reminds us that "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." Our deepest needs and most painful struggles can become the very things that propel us into a deeper relationship with God.

Consider a current struggle or need in your life. How might this challenge be an opportunity to draw closer to God? Instead of trying to hide your desperation, bring it openly before the Lord. Remember, a crumb from Christ is more powerful than a feast without Him.

**Prayer:** Father, I bring my desperation to You. Help me to see my struggles as opportunities to experience Your presence and power in new ways.



## **Day 3: Determination in the Face of Obstacles**

**Reading: Galatians 6:9**

### **Devotional:**

The Canaanite woman faced numerous obstacles - cultural barriers, initial rejection, and the disciples' annoyance. Yet she remained determined. Paul encourages us in Galatians to "not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

What "good" in your life are you tempted to give up on? A relationship? A ministry? A personal goal? Reflect on how you can renew your determination today. Remember, breakthroughs often come to those who persist in faith.

Prayer: Lord, renew my determination today. When I'm tempted to give up, remind me of Your faithfulness and the harvest that comes from perseverance.

## **Day 4: Embracing God's Abundance**

**Reading: Ephesians 3:20-21**

### **Devotional:**

The sermon pointed out how the Canaanite woman asked for crumbs but received a full miracle. Often, we limit God by our small expectations.

Paul reminds us that God "is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine."

Take some time to dream big with God today. What would it look like for God to do "immeasurably more" in your life, your family, or your community? Allow yourself to pray bold prayers, trusting in God's abundant power and love.

Prayer: God, expand my vision of what You can do. Help me to pray boldly and expect great things from You, knowing that Your power far exceeds my imagination.

## **Day 5: The Assurance of God's "Yes"**

### **Reading: 2 Corinthians 1:20**

#### **Devotional:**

The sermon concluded with the powerful assurance that our requests have been granted in Christ. Paul affirms this, saying, "For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ."

Reflect on the promises of God that are particularly meaningful to you right now. How does knowing these promises are "Yes" in Christ change your perspective on your current circumstances? Consider writing down these promises and speaking them aloud as declarations of faith.

Prayer: Jesus, thank You that all of God's promises find their "Yes" in You. Help me to live in the assurance of Your faithfulness, claiming Your promises with confidence.

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**Here's a small group guide based on the sermon transcription:**

**Small Group Guide: "Lord, Help Me to Hold Out Until My Change Comes"**

**Opening Prayer:**

Begin the session with a prayer, asking God to open hearts and minds to the message and guide the discussion.

**Key Takeaways:**

1. Persistence in faith is powerful, even when facing challenges or silence from God.
2. Desperation can be the beginning of transformation when we bring it to Jesus.

3. Determination in faith can overcome obstacles and rejection.
4. God's deliverance often follows determined faith.
5. Sometimes we need to think bigger and ask for more from God.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. The sermon mentions the Chinese bamboo tree as a metaphor for faith. How does this story resonate with your own experiences of waiting on God?
2. The Canaanite woman in the text was described as desperate. Can you share a time when you felt desperate in your faith journey? How did you handle it?
3. How do you maintain determination in your faith when faced with silence or apparent rejection from God?
4. The pastor says, "A crumb from Christ is more powerful than a feast without him." What does this mean to you practically?
5. Reflect on the phrase "Your request is granted." How might this change your approach to prayer and faith?

6. The sermon emphasizes not asking "too small." In what areas of your life might you need to think bigger or ask for more from God?

### **Practical Applications:**

1. This week, identify an area in your life where you feel you've been "holding out." Commit to praying specifically about this situation daily.

2. Write down a "big ask" prayer request that stretches your faith. Share it with the group and agree to pray for each other's requests.

3. Look for opportunities to encourage someone who might be in a "desperate" situation, sharing the hope and persistence modeled in this sermon.

4. Reflect on areas where you might be limiting God by thinking too small. Challenge yourself to expand your vision in alignment with God's promises.

5. Practice gratitude for the "crumbs" or small blessings in your life, recognizing their value in light of Christ's presence.

### **Closing Prayer:**

End the session by praying for persistence, determination, and faith for each group member. Ask God to grant the requests that align with His will and to help each person "hold out" until their change comes.

**Scripture for Further Study:**

- Galatians 6:9
- Matthew 11:28
- 1 Peter 5:7

**ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. How does the concept of 'holding out until your change comes' apply to your personal life and faith journey? Can you share an experience where persistence in faith led to a breakthrough?
2. How does the sermon's emphasis on community action and social justice align with or challenge your understanding of Christian mission?
3. What does it mean to have 'desperate faith' like the Canaanite woman, and how can we cultivate this kind of determination in our own prayer lives?
4. How does the Community of Hope's vision and work reflect the persistent faith demonstrated in the sermon? What lessons can we learn from their approach to community transformation?

5. The sermon emphasizes the power of 'crumbs from Christ.' How might this perspective change the way we view small blessings or seemingly unanswered prayers?
6. In what ways do you see the themes of desperation, determination, and deliverance playing out in your own life or in the lives of those around you?
7. How does the concept of 'great faith' as described in the sermon challenge our conventional understanding of faith and its role in our spiritual lives?
8. The Pastor speaks about not asking or thinking too small. How might this idea reshape our approach to prayer and our expectations of God's work in our lives?
9. What does it mean for our requests to be 'already granted' in the context of faith, and how might this belief impact our daily walk with God?
10. How can the story of the Canaanite woman inspire us to persist in the face of silence, rejection, or seeming indifference from God or others in our spiritual journey?