



Series: Types of Evangelism
Lesson 4: **Interpersonal Evangelist**

Adapted from Kelli Mahoney's Handout [Types of Evangelism](#)¹

Matthew 15:1-39

Darrin Woods, Facilitator

- Identification of Key Verse: "Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great *is* your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour" (Matthew 15:28).²
- Considerations:
 - The chapter begins with contrasts between those who defame God's Word by practicing worldly tradition (scribes and Pharisees) and those who declare God's Word by upholding biblical truth (Isaiah and Jesus).
 - "[The Canaanite] woman's faith was great because she persisted in asking and trusting when everything seemed against her. Certainly her race was against her: She was a Gentile. Her sex was against her, for most Jewish rabbis paid little attention to women. It seemed that the disciples were against her, and Christ's words might have led her to believe that even *He* was against her. All of these obstacles only made her persist in asking."³
- Conversation about Scriptures
 - Consider the following questions after reading the description of "The Interpersonal Evangelist" in the [Types of Evangelism](#) Handout and Matthew 15:1-39.
 - Matthew 15:1-11—Why is Jesus so concerned about the scribes and Pharisees' emphasis on the "tradition of the elders?" How do we see the presence and affects of this practice today?
 - Matthew 15:12-20—How is the heart related to human behavior?

Turn Over

¹ <http://christianteens.about.com/od/christianliving/tp/EvangelismStyle.htm>

² *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Mt 15:28). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

³ Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). *The Bible exposition commentary* (Mt 15:21). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

- Matthew 15:21-24—
 - In what ways might the Canaanite woman’s reference to Jesus as “Lord, Son of David!” (Matthew 15:22) suggest she wants to initiate a relationship with Jesus?

 - How might Jesus’ initial silence to the Canaanite woman’s response (Matthew 15:22) support His views about the relationship between the heart and human behavior?

- Matthew 15:25-28
 - Who might the “children” and “little dogs” represent (Matthew 15:26)? How do these examples further illustrate the contrasts of tradition vs. truth concerning the Word of God and salvation?

 - How do these verses demonstrate Jesus’ role as The Interpersonal Evangelist?

- List three words that you feel best summarize challenges the blind man faced as The Interpersonal Evangelist.

- Practical Application
 - Role-playing scenarios involving interpersonal evangelism strategies

 - In your own words, briefly describe what you believe about evangelism based on today’s lesson. You can begin your statement with something like: “Evangelism, I believe...”