

### Dwelling in the Word

Prayerfully read Matt 15:21-39 and ask: 1) What words, phrases, or images stood out to you? 2) What does this say about what God desires to accomplish in you? 3) How could you respond to what God says in this passage?

### Beginning the Conversation

3. How would you define hope?
4. Describe a moment/situation where either you were filled with hope, or where you needed to experience hope?

### Digging Deeper *(pick some of the following questions to discuss as a group)*

6. In Matthew 15:21-28, we read of Jesus' conversation with the Canaanite woman. He commends her for having great faith. What do you think impressed Jesus about her "great" faith?
7. Throughout the gospels, we see that Jesus is very clear on his mission to bring redemption to the world. First to Israel as God's chosen people and then to the rest of the world as we see in this interaction with the Canaanite woman and in Matthew 8:5-12. Why do you think his message of hope goes first to the Jews, and then on to others? (also look at Gen. 12:1-3, Gen. 15, Gen. 17:3-8)
8. What are some ways that this expanding mission of Jesus is seen in the rest of the New Testament? (Matthew 28:18 & Acts 1:8, Acts 10:9-48)
9. Lyndell noted that compassion and mercy are often paired together in the ministry of Jesus. In addition to the healings and the feeding of the 4,000 that we read about in Matt. 15:29-39, what are some other stories where those traits are seen?
10. Jesus' healing of the lame, blind, crippled and mute in this passage are signs not only of his healing power, but also of how he is fulfilling prophecy from the Old Testament (ex. Isaiah 35:5-6). What other Old Testament passages might Jesus be fulfilling through these acts? (Isaiah 61)
11. As Lyndell talked about the story of the feeding of the 4,000, she shared ways in which she and Paulo have seen God provide in their lives and ministry. How have you seen God provide in your life, or in the lives of those around you?
12. Lyndell also noted that this story of feeding of the 4,000 comes after the disciples have seen Jesus feed 5,000. This second miracle feeding serves as a reminder that Jesus cares for our souls and our physical needs. How can we practice both as a church as we care for those in our neighbourhoods and city?

### Living it Out

1. What might be a way you can partner with Jesus to offer hope to someone this week?
2. Take some time this week to pray for our sister church relationship with Niteroi Baptist in Brazil. Pray for their church leadership team as well as for the team that will be traveling to Brazil in July.