

Mystic



✓ Prepare in Advance

- Have the *Bible Background Video* ready to view.
- Retrieve, review, and have ready the videos listed below (links are provided on this session's webpage).

✓ Truths

Read the text for today, Matthew 15:21-28 then view the *Bible Background Video*.

Discuss the following questions:

- What truth might Jesus have affirmed within himself during this entire encounter?
- What truth was Jesus being invited to consider adding to his perspective?

✓ Wide-Eyed

Listen to the following song twice:

Nicole Nordeman: "Wide Eyed"

First listening: Invite people to just take in the song and note their reactions/thoughts as they listen. Have them each share **one word** that describes their foremost reaction.

Second listening: Invite people to place themselves somewhere in the scenes of the song.

Prayer reflection: After the song is played, invite people to consider the following questions **individually** first (write the questions on a poster, or have them printed on a handout; allow about 20 minutes for this reflection):

- If you were to meet face to face with a person in the song, which one would take you out of one of your comfort zones. Which comfort zone? Why?
- What are the differences between you and that person?
- What are the similarities between you and that person?
- The song says that everyone is made in the image of God. What do you sense would need to change in you, for you to more fully embrace that truth?
- Are there any fears that surface for you?
- How do you approach change in your life? Describe how it feels, and how you react initially, and the process you go through to consider changing something in your actions, thoughts and/or perspectives.

What are the changes in life and perspective you are currently considering, if any? Describe your experience – has it been easy or difficult for you?

Share the reflections in the larger group.

✓ Closing

Listen to Nicole Nordeman "River God"

Pray together by passing around a candle. Invite each person to hold the candle and voice a sentence prayer for himself/herself or someone else.

by Joy Yee

