



“DETERMINED FAITH”
From Desperation to Dependence
MARK 7:24-30

- *Puddleglum*

“The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation.”
– H.D. THOREAU

- *Really?*
- *A Desperate Mother*

Her Determined Faith...

1. _____ **JESUS** _____ vss. 24-26; MATTHEW 15:22; MARK 3:8; EPHESIANS 3:20;
PSALM 46:10

I _____! God _____! I think I'll _____ Him.

Her Determined Faith...

2. **DIDN'T** _____ *if* **HE** _____ vs. 27; PROVERBS 3:5; MATTHEW 26:39

Her Determined Faith...

3. _____ *until* **HE** _____ vss. 28-30; LUKE 18:1-6

- 2 CORINTHIANS 1:9

*Maybe God allows times of desperation...
that we might learn to _____ on Him.*

LIFE GROUP STUDY NOTES
“DETERMINED FAITH”
From Desperation to Dependence

GETTING STARTED *“In your opinion...”*

1. Sunday’s sermon focused on using times of desperation to increase our dependence on Christ. Was there anything helpful, confusing, or questionable about this message?
2. Is self-sufficiency a good quality or bad? Explain. Is it a fair statement to assert in our quest for self-sufficiency that we really don’t want to need God? Explain.
3. Do you agree or disagree with Thoreau’s quote about quiet lives of desperation?
4. Do you agree or disagree with the Psychology article from the sermon’s introduction that people are generally happy? Explain. Do you know anyone who might be a **“Puddleglum”**?

GOING DEEPER *“According to the Bible...”*

Answer the following questions from what the Bible says in the suggested reading

- **Read Philippians 2:14-16.** How might the command in verse 14 be helpful for Puddleglum? What is the reason for this command (vs 15)? What do complaining and arguing reveal about our faith?
- **Read Romans 8:28.** How might Puddleglum benefit from this promise? How might this apply to everyday life?
- **Read Romans 5:3-5.** If Puddleglum’s mindset is *“suffering=rejection”*, how might he benefit from redefining *“suffering”* from these verses? Could suffering actually mean *“affirmation”* and *“potential for maturity”*?
- **Read Psalm 33:18.** What are the promises and benefits for relying on the Lord? What actions might demonstrate that kind of reliance?
- **Read Proverbs 3:5.** What is the problem with relying on our *“understanding”* of things?
- **Read Proverbs 24:6.** Would it be fair to say God’s wisdom works through relying on many advisers?

LIVING OUT

- **Why wait for desperate times? Why not learn to depend on God now?**