

SPIRITUAL TASK —THE FOOD THAT DOESN'T PERISH (Matt 15)

by the Rev. David Roth at the New Church of Boulder Valley

Story A Gentile woman cries to the Lord for help. He doesn't listen to her. The disciples ask the Lord to send her away. He tells them that He came only for the lost sheep of Israel. Then she came and worshiped Him. He said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and give it to the little dogs." She said, "Yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs that fall from the master's table." He then granted her her wish because of her faith.

Meaning When we ask for things from merely external consideration the Lord doesn't listen. But when we approach the Lord with a humble heart trying to infill our external demands with spiritual motivations, the Lord can listen and bring healing and comfort. Merely external wants are like mere crumbs compared to the full loaves of bread that are our external desires married to true spiritual concerns.

Task This week, "Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life." When you make a choice about something ask yourself, "Is this a request from my whole self (spiritual and natural parts unified) or something that will feed only my lower nature?" Tell the truth about it, and then make a conscious choice to do the right thing.