

THE GOSPEL OF
mark

**That Which Defiles
Mark 7:1-23**

After all He had done...

“Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed.”

Mark 7:1-2 ESV

“And he said to them, ‘The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.’”

Mark 2:27 ESV

Like the sabbath, the _____ was made for man,
not man for the _____.

Jot Your Thoughts

“And he said to them, ‘Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, ‘This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.’”

Mark 7:6-8 ESV

"You have a fine way of _____ the commandment of God in order to establish your _____!" Mark 7:9 ESV

What Truly Defiles

“And he said, ‘What comes out of a person is what defiles him. For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.’”

Mark 7:20-23 ESV

What do I need
to put in?

What would
be the overflow?

Gospel of Mark: That Which Defiles

Questions based on Sermon from February 18, 2024

Getting to Know Me

1. What was or is your favorite family tradition?
2. Would you rather eat from a dirty plate or with a dirty fork?

Digging Deeper

1. What new insight or information did you learn about from hearing Pastor Luke's sermon this Sunday?
2. Read Mark 7:1-4. Jesus had just performed many miracles and finally gets a chance to sit and eat with his disciples. Why do you think the Pharisees and teachers of law accused the disciples of "unclean" eating? Why was this important to them? Why were they finding fault with Jesus's followers? How do you react when people find "unfounded" fault with you?
3. Read Mark 7:5-8. How did Jesus respond to the accusation? What is the significance of Jesus using scripture to rebuke their accusation? The word "hypocrite" in Greek refers to "an actor" or one with a "mask". How are these leaders displaying their hypocrisy? Why do you think man creates rules and traditions and holds them higher than the commands of God?

4. Read Mark 7:9-13 and Col 2:8 Here we see Jesus tell them that their traditions made the word of God "to no effect." What are some traditions you have that are overshadowing the commandments of God? How do we in our current culture hold on to tradition or bend the rules at the expense of the commandments of God?

5. Read Mark 7:14-19. Why do you think Jesus felt the need to have the crowd understand what he was about to say? Why do you think his disciples did not understand what Jesus was saying? What was Jesus more concerned with than the type of food we eat? Read Psalms 51:10-12 and Proverbs 4:23. What are some practical ways to keep our hearts pure?

6. Read Mark 7:20-23 and 2 Cor 10:5. Jesus gives a list of sins present in the hearts of men. How can we overcome the evil in our hearts?

Going Deeper:

7. What is your reaction when the stresses of life get difficult? What flows out of you? What are you filling your heart with that causes defilement in its overflow?
8. Ask God to give you wisdom and discernment to ensure that what comes out of you is good and honorable. Memorize 2 Cor 10:5. Practice taking every thought captive. Spend time in prayer and praise this week as you allow God to fill your heart with his love and grace.

Prayer

Read Proverbs 4:20-27 and Psalms 51:112 out loud together as a group. Thank God for his faithful instructions for living a life focused on Jesus.

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What do I

What would

We exist to glorify God by guiding people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.