

THE ONLY WAY TO BE CLEAN

Mark 7:1-23

MAIN IDEAS FROM THIS WEEK

1. WHAT IT MEANS TO BE UNCLEAN
2. THE WAYS WE TRY TO CLEAN OURSELVES
3. THE ONLY WAY TO BE MADE CLEAN

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – Pick one or two of these to talk about as a group

1. What stood out to you most from this week's message? Why?
2. It can be hard to relate with passages in the Bible that have to do with Jewish purity laws because they can seem so foreign to us. Did this week's message help you see their significance any more clearly? What questions do you have about the purity laws?
3. Do you agree with the idea that we all have at least some awareness that we are unclean and therefore separated from God? Why or why not?
4. It can be easy to distance ourselves from the Pharisees and think of them as "bad guys." But, in reality, we have the same problems and play the same games that the Pharisees did. It just looks different because of when and where we live. What about the Pharisees do you see in yourself?
5. All of us can fall into the same trap of surface-level "self-cleaning" that the Pharisees fell into. Our surface-level cleaning is whatever we do in order to feel like we are a good person. What are some of your self-cleaning techniques?
6. Mark 7:1-23 is a great example of Jesus' focus on inside-out change. What are some other examples from Jesus' ministry that show His focus on inside-out change? What are some differences between the "outside-in" approach to change that we tend to default to and the "inside-out" approach to change that Jesus emphasizes?

A TRUTH TO TAKE WITH YOU: Because Jesus makes our hearts clean we can stop asking everything else to.