



Psalm 24:4 "One who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to deceit And has not sworn deceitfully."

Psalm 51:2 "Wash me thoroughly from my guilt And cleanse me from my sin."

Psalm 51:7 "Purify me with hyssop, and I will be clean; Cleanse me, and I will be whiter than snow."

1 Samuel 16:7 But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God does not see as man sees, since man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

"(In this passage) Jesus is not abrogating the law but making the point that **sin comes from the heart**. Thus the defilement that came to a Jew who ate "unclean" food was caused not by the food itself but **by the rebellious heart that acted in disobedience to God.**"

—Charles Ryrie

Memory Verse #34: "Neglecting the _____, you hold to the _____."
_____." (Mark 7:8).

In His Dust: Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, _____ about these things (Philippians 4:8).

Lesson notes & questions:

Lesson Reflections (*review before Apply nights*):

- What is at least one new thing I learned about loving God or my neighbor?
- Which topics would I like to know more about or need clarification?
- How does the Holy Spirit want me to apply the lesson's Scripture to my discipleship?

"Go make disciples...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Mt 28:19-20)



APPLY!

- Share any “Lesson Reflections” with the group. Recite this lesson’s Memory and In His Dust verses; discuss what they mean to you.
- **Mark 7:1-13 - Ritual cleansing**
 - What did these Pharisees do to the word of God, and why (7:8–9)? What does this lead to (7:13)?
 - Comment on “No one can fulfill all the commandments, but Christians should not be able to sin successfully.”
 - Which of our practices (in church or culture) are long-held traditions that have no basis in Scripture? Think of some that are good traditions and others that may come close to being given the same authority as God’s word.
 - How do you think God feels when He sees one of His “lampstands” teaching contrary to His Word?
- **Mark 7:14-23 - Defilement comes from within**
 - Why doesn’t Jesus tell verses 17-24 to the entire crowd?
 - This is a complex passage that contains cultural dynamics and subtle references foreign to us in our day. What questions do you have? Let’s be Bereans (Acts 17:11).
 - There are several lists like **Mark 7:20-23** in the Scripture, including **1 Corinthians 6:9-10**. What does Paul say in verse 11 in response?
- **Mark 7:24-30 - In Tyre and Sidon**
 - In what ways is this passage connected to the previous discussion on cleanliness?
 - Why was the Syrophenician woman happy with mere “crumbs”? What can we learn from her attitude?
 - How can we demonstrate boldness with humility?
- **Mark 7:31-37 - In the Decapolis**
 - In what ways might the healing be an “acted out parable,” with each of the sometimes-odd procedures intended to teach a more significant point? (Ex: He took this man aside as He took the disciples aside in verse 17)
 - Why do you think Jesus “sighed deeply”?
- **What do you want to remember and apply from this lesson?**
- **Spend the last five minutes in prayer pairs**
 - Praise for answered prayers, growth, and how God is working in your life
 - Intercessions for our community and society, others with specific needs