

THE GOSPEL *of*

**MARK**



# THE GOSPEL of **MARK**

What Defiles?

## Series on this Gospel

- in Mark till end of August
- back to Mark in January – Easter
- community groups wrapping up
  - intentional – take notes, have discussions
  - process with people
- Chapter 7 :1-23

# THE GOSPEL of **MARK**

Mark  
7:1-23

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. (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders, and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash.[b] And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.)

# THE GOSPEL of

# MARK

Mark  
7:1-23

And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” 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.”

# THE GOSPEL of **MARK**

Mark  
7:1-23

And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, “Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban”’ (that is, given to God)— then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

# THE GOSPEL of **MARK**

Mark  
7:1-23

And he called the people to him again and said to them, “Hear me, all of you, and understand: There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him.” And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. And he said to them, “Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?”

# THE GOSPEL of **MARK**

Mark  
7:1-23

(Thus he declared all foods clean.) 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.”

### 1. Setting & Charges

#### a) Oversight and Teachers

- set disciples straight – hold the doctrine

#### b) Travel & Charges

- from Jerusalem (100miles) clear charge

#### c) Broken Tradition

- purity, washing hands, eating without

#### d) Clear Confrontation with Authorities

- suspect desire to get movement into line



## 2. Jesus Responds

- starts by calling them hypocrites – sets the mood

### a) Quotes Isaiah

- words worship – hearts far away

- worship & teaching – man's doctrine vs. God's truth

### b) you have lost sight of things

- exchanged commands of God for your traditions

- example - 'honor father & mother', exceptions made by leaders around money.
- many such things you do

### 3. Public Confrontation

- called the people to him.....responded to charge
- a) What defiles? (makes ritual cleaning essential)
  - what goes in (food) gets processed & leaves
  - does not affect purity
  - what comes out of the person defiles
  - radical thought – confronting traditions

b) goes into the house – finished the talk

- confused disciples ask him.....

c) don't you guys get it?

#### 4. The Heart Matters

a) from within we are directed – act from heart

b) the heart is sinful, not pure, broken

- evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness

- evil within us defiles us (not clean or pure)

### So What?

#### 1. Two Ditches & Truth

##### a) legalism

- rule based, do this and .....
- suggest you can earn, be worthy of....
- the keeping of traditions & rules critical

##### b) licentiousness

- under grace, not under the law
- freedom to do what I feel - ignore traditions
- most often, sexuality, money, community

### c) Tend to zig zag between ditches

- preferences & convictions turned to doctrine and expression of worship
- teach others to see as we do
- loss of grace towards others & convictions
- struggle with permissible for some not others, want clear do's and don'ts
- struggle with considering weaker brother and demands to put others before self

## 2. You Cannot Solve this Problem alone

### a) Scripture clear – heart & actions connected

- treasure & heart

### b) Born with a Sinful Heart

- Eph. 2:1 “And you were dead in the trespasses and sins”

- Rom. 3:23 “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”

- Rom. 5:12 “Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned”

### 3. Jesus came to Make New

- Eph. 2:4-9 “But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

### 4. Love & Obedience Connected

- John 14:15 “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”
- John 14:23-24 “Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.”
- James – Faith without works