

**Cleansing**  
**Mark 7:1-23**

Neil Trainer  
February 23, 2020



**NOTES**

**Cleansing**  
**Mark 7:1-23**

Suggested Questions for Individual  
Study or Group Discussion\*



- Do you believe in the saying, “cleanliness is next to godliness”? Why or why not?
- *Read Mark 7:1-23.* About what issues are Jesus and the Jerusalem religious leaders debating? How would you summarize their respective views?
- How do the religious leaders both add to and take away from God’s commands? What is Jesus’ response?
- How does Jesus view the commands of God? How then should Christ’s followers view the authority of the Hebrew Scriptures or Old Testament?
- What are some human traditions we follow in our church? Why do you think they began? Are there ways we honor traditions as equal or above the commands of God?
- How is the issue of defilement and cleansing still present and relevant for us? What might Jesus say to our church today about this?
- Of the list of things that Jesus says come out of a person’s heart, which are struggles for you? How can you work with Jesus to address the heart of the matter? How can your small group or others support and pray for you in that work?

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**For Family Discussion:** Ask: *What is the most fun you’ve ever had getting messy or dirty?* Read Mark 7:1-23. Ask: *How does Jesus’ idea of what is unclean or defiled differ from that of the Pharisees? How do things that come out of our heart make us unclean? What is coming out of your heart that you would like Jesus to clean up? Pray and ask the Lord to help you.*

\*Select or adapt questions to fit the needs and makeup of your group.

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