

## GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

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In your own words, summarize the main idea from last week's passage (6:7-56)

**Read Mark 7:1-37. Share 2-3 observations of what you see in the passage and then answer some or all of the following questions:**

What was the problem identified by the Pharisees?

Why did they consider it problematic?

What authority did they appeal to/rely on for their position?

Was this tradition of maintaining ceremonial cleanliness necessarily wrong? Explain why or why not.

In your own words, what is the core difference between the Pharisee's perspective on cleanliness and Jesus' perspective?

What was Jesus' problem with the Pharisees' position and attitude?

Was Jesus opposed to the Old Testament Law (Torah)?

Does Jesus want the people to discard the Law or to live it out?

Why does Jesus appeal to Isaiah 29?

Is true worship a matter of right-feelings, of right-actions, a combination of right motives and right actions, or something else? Explain.

Jesus gives the example of "Corban" as an area of hypocrisy in 7:9-13

Does Jesus oppose the original practice of "Corban" given in Ex 20:12 or is his problem with the way it has been twisted? What does this tell us about how we should view the OT Law?

How do we (modern evangelical Christians) bend and break God's word in "spiritual" ways which actually serve our evil desires?

How does the list in 7:21-22 connect to the 10 Commandments?

How are some of these things made "acceptable" in the broader society? How are they made "acceptable" in the Church?

Which do you struggle with? How can you be made clean?

Why does Jesus interact with the Syrophenician woman the way he does?

What does this story teach us about Jesus' mission to the Gentiles?

What does this story teach us about the nature of faith & discipleship?

How does the woman contrast with the Pharisees, Crowd, and disciples?

What happens in the story of the healing of the deaf-mute man?

Why does Mark tie this passage to Isaiah 35? What does it mean?

What is significant about a story about deafness at this point in Mark?

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