INNER PURITY

Mark 7:1–30

Key Verse 7:14,15

1. Who came from Jerusalem and why? (1; 3:6) What did they see the disciples doing? (2) How was this alarming to them? (3–5) How did Jesus respond? (6,7) How do people honor God with their lips, but remain far from him?
2. What is the danger of holding onto human traditions? (8) Why is it most important to hold onto God’s commands? What example did Jesus give? (9–13) How was the “Corban” tradition a good thing for the religious leader? How was God’s command better?
3. Who does Jesus address next? (14) What lesson does he teach? (15) How is this concept different from how most people think? How did Jesus help his disciples see that he was talking about spiritual defilement? (17–19) How does this relate to 8,9?
4. How did Jesus explain that it is what comes out of us that spiritually defiles us? (20–23) If we harbor those things in us, how does that defile us? How can we focus more on what is in our hearts rather than on our outward appearance or activities? (cf. 8, Ps 119:9–11; 1Jn1:7–9)
5. Where did Jesus go next and why? (24) Who fell at his feet? (25,26a) What did she want? (26b) What did Jesus mean by his response? (27) How did the woman respond? (28) What does this show about what was in her heart? How did Jesus respond? (29,30)