

Mark / Chapter 7

Short Summaries

Jesus is teaching at the temple when the Pharisees and scribes come to Him and challenge Him on why His disciples don't always wash their hands before they eat. Jesus responds by telling them that they should focus on what's important, which is the heart, and not just the outside appearance.

1. The Pharisees and some of the scribes came together to Jesus and asked why His disciples were not following their tradition of washing their hands before they ate.
2. Jesus responded by saying that they were more concerned with following the traditions of men rather than the commandments of God.

Summaries

Mark tells the story of Jesus healing a man with leprosy and then teaching the people about what things defile a person. He also teaches about fasting and prayer.

Mark 7 tells the story of Jesus healing a man who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech. Jesus takes the man aside, touches his ears, and then lays his hands on the man's tongue. The man's hearing and speech are immediately healed. 👍👎

Application Questions

What can we learn from the fact that Jesus healed a deaf and mute man?

What does it mean to you that Jesus said the kingdom of God is within us?

How can we apply Jesus' instruction to "look up and not down" to our lives today?

How can we apply Jesus' instruction to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us to our lives today?

What do you think it means that Jesus honored the faith of the Syrophenician woman?

How can we apply the principle that we should not worry about what goes into our mouths to our lives today?

What does it mean to you that Jesus said we need to have faith the size of a mustard seed?

What does it mean to you that Jesus said "that which defiles a man" comes from within?

Exegetical Questions

What does the man's ability to hear and speak symbolize? (Mark 7:36-37)

What can we learn from this passage about how we should approach Jesus with our requests? (Mark 7:24-30)

Why does Jesus heal the deaf and mute man in stages? (Mark 7:32-35)

Why does Jesus respond to the woman's request with a seemingly harsh statement? (Mark 7:24-25)

What do the people's reactions in verses 32-35 reveal about their hearts? (Mark 7:31-37)

What can we learn from the woman's persistence in asking Jesus to heal her daughter? (Mark 7:26-27)

How does Jesus' miraculous healing of the man contrast with the religious leaders' failure to help the man? (Mark 7:31-37)

What does Jesus mean when He says that it is not what goes into a person that defiles them, but what comes out of them? (Mark 7:15)

Observation Questions

What does the man do after he is healed?

What does Jesus say about what really defiles a person?

What does Jesus say is the reason the man was not healed sooner?

What does Jesus say about those who want to follow him?

What does the Syrophenician woman do when she meets Jesus?

How does Jesus heal the deaf and mute man?

What do the disciples ask Jesus about the man's healing?

How does Jesus respond to the woman?

Group Discussion Questions

How can we apply the lessons from this chapter to our own lives?

What do we learn about faith from the story of the deaf and mute man's healing (Mark 7:31-37)?

What do we learn about Jesus from the way He interacted with the Syrophenician woman (Mark 7:24-30)?

What can we learn from the Syrophenician woman's persistence in asking Jesus to heal her daughter (Mark 7:24-30)?

What does it mean that "that which defiles a person is what comes out of him" (Mark 7:15)?

What might have been going through the minds of the people who saw the deaf and mute man suddenly being able to speak and hear (Mark 7:37)?

How did the man who was deaf and mute receive his healing (Mark 7:31-37)?

What can we learn about praying for healing from the Syrophenician woman's example (Mark 7:24-30)?