



Week 4 - Truth or Tradition?

LifeGroup Discussion Guide

How to use This Guide:

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the discussion questions, add any optional scriptures and questions if needed, and then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Discussion Questions:

Begin your study by sharing thoughts on this question. Which of your family traditions would be difficult to change? Why?

Read Mark 7:1-23

- Would the Romans of Jesus' day likely consider pride a vice or a virtue? How do non-Christians generally view pride today?
- What is the connection between pride and legalism?
- Do you have any tendencies toward legalism? How would you recognize such tendencies in yourself? How would you battle against them?
- What is wrong with the logic behind "guilt by association"? Do you know a person who is godly but who chooses to associate with less reputable types?
- Which rituals in your church are possible to do as merely external show without necessitating an internal spiritual reality?
- Which of your practices are long-held traditions that have no basis in Scripture?
- What are some of your least favorite or most challenging verses in the Bible? Do you sometimes create ways to excuse yourself from obeying those verses, perhaps by employing some work-around or a fanciful interpretation?
- In what ways do other religions focus on external actions? How is Christianity different from each of those religions?
- What is the remedy for the list of sinful heart conditions? Why is "trying harder" inadequate and even counterproductive?
- What is wrong with measuring spirituality by outward actions?
- How can you make sure traditions and outward actions do not replace true holiness?
- What can you do to ensure that you are clean in God's sight?
- For more Bible passages about having a pure heart, see Psalm 51; 94:8-11; Proverbs 4:23; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18; Hebrews 12:14.

Next Steps

What was your biggest take-away from the weekend message?

What did God say to you today through His Word? And what are you going to do about it!

Go to www.mycornerstone.org/next to learn more about your next step

More Thoughts

- Ask the Lord to make your worship of him meaningful rather than mechanical
- Be aware of your own personality style and then see how God communicates to you in that way
- Rejoice that there are no barriers that keep God from meeting your needs
- Search yourself to see if you have any prejudices about race, culture, or gender. Ask God to help you see people as Jesus sees them.

Prayer

Father, thank you for setting us free. We are no longer bound by the law, but saved through your grace. Keep us free from our own legalism, our own systems. Keep us amazed and mesmerized by what you have done for us.