



Hands and hearts, clean or filthy?  
Not a surface question.



<http://www.bible-researcher.com/headcoverings3.html>



[The Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes](#)  
Les Tres Riches Heures du Duc de Berry, c. 1413

# The Gospel of Mark

Jesus' Manhood, Motion, and Mission

*Day 1 – Summarize this chapter*

## Welcome

Welcome the Holy Spirit into your time of study with prayer; write it here:

## Read the Chapter

Read all of chapter 7 in one sitting. Try to summarize each event briefly; I stick with 10 words or less to help me keep to the main point. Write your text divisions on the left and your summaries in a sentence to the right.

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## *Day 2 – Hands, hearts, and hypocrites*

### **Hands: 7:1-9**

Given that Mark was Greek, why do you think he went into an explanation of the handwashing requirements of Jewish tradition for his readers (verses 3,4)?

What do you think the Pharisees and teachers of the law meant by “unclean” in verse 5?

### **You hypocrites**

In your own words, what is a hypocrite?

Jesus here is completely free of the opinion of people. How would you like it if someone called you a hypocrite? Yet that’s what Jesus boldly declares they are...no apologies, no Southern graces, no “Gosh, everybody sins, don’t be so hard on yourself.” He SLAMS them. What do you think about that? Talk to God about it.

## *Day 3 – [Un]clean*

### **An example, 9-13**

Some traditions we follow have nothing to do with the Bible. Example: a bride wears a fancy dress, has bridesmaids, and carries flowers. This is not in Scripture, although the image of a bride dressed in white is. What do you think Jesus’ goal was in juxtaposing their tradition with Scripture? In what ways are we like the religious leaders, just being religious and not honoring God and His Word?

### **Name things that fit in each category, verses 14-23:**

**CLEAN:**

**UNCLEAN:**

What do you think it means to have a clean heart?

## *Day 4 – The Lady from Tyre*

### **Dogs? Verses 24-30**

Here we meet another desperate parent. This woman is Greek, however, and not Jewish. Jesus comes across as harsh in His comment to her, yet she fully acknowledges Him as LORD. No one else in Mark’s gospel does that. This woman had great faith and great wisdom, and Jesus rewards both.

### **Commentaries**

Dig a bit, if you have time, about this story. Go to [biblos.com](http://biblos.com) and type in the reference for this passage. Click on the commentaries tab, choose an author, and see what you can learn. Write any fresh insights below!

## Day 5 – Eyes to see, ears to hear

### Situation-->Spit-->Sigh-->Speaking-->Shhhh

Do you think there was a meaning behind Jesus' deep sigh? If yes, what do you think it was?

### Aside

Notice the flow of this passage. Put the words “public” and “private” with the appropriate words.

\_\_\_\_\_ People brought a man to Jesus for healing

\_\_\_\_\_ verses 33-35

\_\_\_\_\_ “Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone.”

\_\_\_\_\_ verses 36b and 37

I get the feeling that some spiritual work is often between Jesus and me--it's intimate. It's private. But the celebrations are often public, hopefully bring Jesus glory, and are the result of me not being able to contain myself! (My praise does not complicate His travels, as was not the case when He walked the earth. Notoriety is often annoying and hampers the real purpose of a ministry.) Is there something going on in your life that you could speak about that would result in people saying, “He has done everything well”?

## Day 6 – Summarizing some points in Ch. 7

### Compare:

Pharisees/religious leaders	Jewish	IN crowd	Twisted faith	Didn't believe in Jesus
Woman from Tyre	Greek	OUT crowd	True faith	Did believe in Jesus

Your thoughts?

### A Clean Heart

How are you, sister? After doing this lesson, you know that Jesus sees the heart, and He understands the core parts of your life. Is there some sin that is making your heart unclean in His sight? Search yourself.

Jesus is able to cleanse you from all of your sin; that's the good news! He is faithful to forgive you. Confess your sin and get free and clean (1 John 1:9). Do it now; don't put it off.