



## #1 "From The Heart"

Cultural Autonomy Defined:

*"I want to do what I want to do when I want to do it. And the dream is to have enough money to pay for it and enough money to keep me out of trouble once I get caught." ~Andy Stanley~*

### **The Big Idea:**

Your Need For SUPERVISION May Someday Come To An End, If You Silence The Toxic Voices That Come From Within.

- Monitoring Our BEHAVIOR Is Not Enough - We Need To Monitor Our Hearts.

Then Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said, <sup>2</sup> "Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat." <sup>3</sup> He answered them, "And why do you break the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition? <sup>4</sup> For God commanded, 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.' <sup>5</sup> But you say, 'If anyone tells his father or his mother, "What you would have gained from me is given to God," <sup>6</sup> he need not honor his father.' So for the sake of your tradition you have made void the word of God. <sup>7</sup> You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said: <sup>8</sup> "'This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; <sup>9</sup> in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'" <sup>10</sup>

Matthew 15:1-10

### **Jesus' Truth Bomb:**

And he called the people to him and said to them, "Hear and understand: <sup>11</sup> it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but what comes out of the mouth; this defiles a person." <sup>12</sup>

Matthew 15:10-11

- Jesus Was Introducing A Religion That Was Rooted In Internal Transformation Of HEART, Evidenced By Love For God And Love For Neighbor.

Then the disciples came and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?" <sup>13</sup> He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be rooted up. <sup>14</sup> Let them alone; they are blind guides. And if the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit." <sup>15</sup> But Peter said to him, "Explain the parable to us." <sup>16</sup> And he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the stomach and is expelled? <sup>17</sup> But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. <sup>18</sup> Matthew 15:12-18

- What Puts You At Odds With GOD Is When What Comes Out Of Your Mouth Puts You At Odds With The People God Loves."

For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. Matthew 15:19

- The Source Of All That Defiles You, Your Hurtful Words, Your Destructive Behaviors Is Within You – It Is Your HEART.

# Life Discussion Questions

For more information about Life Groups go to

<https://waipunachapel.churchcenter.com/groups/life-groups>

- When you were a kid, what is one thing you did that always got you in trouble?
- Do you have experience with a religious organization that implied or stated that your behavior is primarily what God cares about? If so, talk about your experience.  
Read Matthew 15:1–20.
- What stands out to you from this passage?
- Jesus takes a very harsh tone with these particular Pharisees. What is at the core of their question that makes Jesus so upset?
- From the Pharisee's perspective, what about Jesus' response could come across as threatening to their way of life?
- If you could summarize what Jesus is trying to communicate, how would you say it in one sentence?
- Which of these following emotions has a way of becoming the boss of you?
  - Anger • Envy • Insecurity • Guilt • Fear • Greed
- What does it sound like (internally) when you're listening to the "boss" you mentioned from the previous question?
- What is an early indicator that you are about to hand over control to that particular emotion?
- What regularly happens in your life that triggers that emotion? Instead of being bossed by the emotion, describe how you would ideally like to handle things when that situation occurs.

Our emotions don't have to be the boss. In fact, Christians already have a boss—a better boss than anger, envy, insecurity, guilt, fear, or greed. And here is his invitation:

*Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.*

Matthew 11:28–29

Source:

Andy Stanley @ North Point Ministries "You're Not The Boss of Me" (Limited License Agreement)

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