

Gospel of Mark

WHAT HYPOCRITES DO

Mark 7:1-13

Opener: What have you been thinking about from the message on Sunday?

Read Mark 7:1-13

1. Why was ceremonial hand washing so important to the Pharisees? What would be the argument made for why it mattered for godliness?
2. Jesus quotes Isaiah 29:13 in verses 6-7 to reveal what was so wrong with how the religious leaders were practicing faith in God. What was the issue he had with their faith?
3. How prevalent is hypocrisy among Christians today? How do we keep hypocrisy from growing in our own lives? Within our church family?
4. What wrong view of God and righteousness is believed that drives one to project in outward speech and actions that we are good people, while actually not being good but rather sinful and greedy?
5. Why do we as humans have a desire to elevate human rules onto the same level as God's commands? What are we trying to accomplish?
6. What is the problem with making extra rules for Christians to follow to live rightly before God and with others?
7. How can you tell if a rule is from God or is just a human rule or church tradition?
8. In our current day, what human rules have been elevated as necessary to be good and righteous before God?
9. What is one man-made rule in your life that you might be using to feel righteous to distract from a sin that you do not want to relinquish?

Closing: What is the Holy Spirit leading you to do in response to what you have considered today in God's Word?