**Honor God With Your Heart**

Mark 7:1-23

Key Verse 7:6b “These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.”

1. Why did the Pharisees from Jerusalem criticize Jesus’ disciples? (1-5) What was the tradition of the elders? How had traditions probably developed and what was their purpose?

2. Why did Jesus call the Pharisees hypocrites? (6) How did they fulfill Isaiah’s prophesy? (cf. Isaiah 29:13) What is more important than following traditions of men? (8)

3. What example does Jesus give of their setting aside the commandments of God to hold to the traditions of men? (9-13) Can you think of an example of nullifying the word of God by our tradition?

4. What did Jesus teach the crowd about what makes a person unclean? (14-19) How does this apply to the Pharisees’ criticism of the disciples?

5. How does Mark apply Jesus’ word to eating clean and unclean food? (19b; cf, Leviticus 11:47, Acts 10:9-16)

6. What really corrupts a person? (20-23; Jeremiah 17:9) How can we have pure hearts that are pleasing to God? (cf. Colossians 3:5-10)