



1

## Jesus' Challenge to False Views of Holiness 7:1-37

- Debate with the Pharisees about hand washing
- "There is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." (v 15)
- "He declared all foods clean" (v19)
- Jesus' response to a Syrophenician woman
- Travel through Gentile areas
- Mark lays a foundation for the church's mission to the Gentiles

2

### Jesus' Rejection of the Tradition of the Elders 7:1-23

- Motivation of the Pharisees and scribes
- Tradition and ritual purity
  - Jesus responds by quoting Isaiah
  - Accuses the Pharisees of hypocrisy
  - A revolutionary concept: it's not what's outside that defiles a person, but what comes from within



3

### The Wit and Faith of the Syrophenician Woman 7:24-30

- A Syrophenician woman's request for healing
- Jesus' response: The children (referring to the Jews) should be fed first before giving the children's bread to the dogs (referring to the Gentiles)
- The woman's retort, with faith: "Even the dogs eat the crumbs"
- Jesus responds to her faith and heals her daughter



4

## The Miracle of Healing for the Deaf

7:31-37

- “They brought to him a deaf man with a speech impediment”
- “He took him aside in private”
- Jesus touched his ears and his tongue
  - His ears were opened, his tongue was released
- Jesus brings comprehensive healing, spiritual and physical
- Healed hearing, understanding, speaking



5

## In Conclusion...

- We are reminded of the power of Jesus. Jesus is trustworthy!
- Jesus challenges our assumptions about righteousness.
- This passage causes us to examine our own motives.
- God’s love is inclusive!

6