



This 12 week series will journey through the gospel of Mark. Each week we will focus on what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. Use these guides in your small group or with your spouse or grab a friend and work through the questions together. There will be a Mark Study Group for anyone interested on Sunday nights Oct 14th-December 9th (*excluding Nov 11) from 6:30 pm-7:45 pm in the church basement. We will have the coffee on so come and journey with us as we learn more about the *Adventure of Discipleship!*

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What's the messiest food that you enjoy the most (chicken wings, cotton candy, sloppy joes etc.)?

READ MARK 7:1-5

Some Pharisees and officials came from Jerusalem and confronted Jesus about not observing their ceremonial washing rules, which weren't commands given by God. When do church traditions become a bad thing?

What are some modern examples of traditions that could potentially become unhealthy or distracting?

READ MARK 7:6-13

What did Jesus find so hypocritical about the Pharisees and their traditions?

Corban (vs.11)—a tradition of the elders that allowed one to declare his wealth to be “devoted to God.” That didn't mean you had to give it to God in your lifetime, which led to the abuse that Jesus spoke of. What does this illustration show you about how traditions twisted the law?

READ MARK 7:14-23

What's the issue debated by the Pharisees and Jesus (verse 15)? Given this debate, how would each define what it means to be spiritual?

What's wrong with measuring spirituality by outward action?
How can you make sure traditions and outward actions do not replace true holiness?

How do you avoid hypocrisy in your life?

What can you do to ensure you're clean in God's sight?
(For help see 1 John 1:7-9).