

Sermon Notes

Heart Failure

Mark 7:1-23

1. How Jesus Confronted His Culture

2. How Jesus Confronts Our Culture

For Further Thought And Discussion

Getting Started

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?
2. What is the worst sickness/disease you've ever contracted? How did it affect you? How long did it take for you to heal?

Going Deeper

1. Why were the religious leaders concerned about washing and ritual purity (7:1-5)? Why was this issue so significant to them?
2. According to Jesus, what does the religious leaders' question (7:5) reveal about the condition of their hearts (7:7-8)? How does Jesus illustrate his point (7:9-13)? How did these leaders misread Scripture? What implications does this have for how we read Scripture?
3. How does Jesus answer the religious leaders' question (7:14-23)? What is surprising about his answer?

Application

1. Jeff said that every culture has purity codes. What are some of the purity codes in our culture? Which of these (if any) do you feel drawn to? How does Jesus both affirm and challenge our desire for purity?
2. Jeff shared a "fruit-to-root" process for diagnosing our heart issues. Can you think of a sinful behavior you could examine using this process? In your group, break up into smaller groups of two and work through this process.
3. What's one thing you can do this week to apply this passage?