

OHC G2 Week #4 Winter Block 2024

QUICK REVIEW: Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, convicted or confused you?

MY STORY: What are some of your favorite family traditions?

DIGGING DEEPER: **Read or tell the story:** Mark 7:1-23

Who do you identify with more in this passage: the Pharisees who held tightly to their traditions, or the disciples who didn't understand Jesus' teaching? Why?

Why did Jesus call the Pharisees and scribes hypocrites?

What conflicts existed between the tradition of the elders and the commandments of God?

What are some ways that religious traditions can be God honoring? In what ways can they be a hindrance to spiritual growth or even hypocritical?

Read 2 Corinthians 2:4 & 7:8-10

Why do you think Paul initially regretted sending his previous letter to the Corinth Church?

What made him change his mind?

What can we learn from this account?

What is the primary barrier that stops you from sharing the gospel with someone you love? Pray that God will help you overcome it.

MEMORIZE ONE: "I have hidden Your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You."
Colossians 3:16, 2 Timothy 4:2, Hebrews 10:24-25

TAKING IT HOME: Do you have any additional thoughts or take-aways?

Mark 7:1 - 23

7 The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus **2** and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. **3** (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. **4** When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.) **5** So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?” **6** He replied, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: “These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. **7** They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.’ **8** You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions.” **9** And he continued, “You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions! **10** For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and mother,’ and, ‘Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.’ **11** But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is Corban (that is, devoted to God)— **12** then you no longer let them do anything for their father or mother. **13** Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that.” **14** Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. **15** Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them.” **[16]** **17** After he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about this parable. **18** “Are you so dull?” he asked. “Don’t you see that nothing that enters a person from the outside can defile them? **19** For it doesn’t go into their heart but into their stomach, and then out of the body.” (In saying this, Jesus declared all foods clean.) **20** He went on: “What comes out of a person is what defiles them. **21** For it is from within, out of a person’s heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, **22** adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. **23** All these evils come from inside and defile a person.”

2 Corinthians 2:4 & 7:8-10

“**4** For I wrote you out of great distress and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to grieve you but to let you know the depth of my love for you.”

“**8** Even if I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it. Though I did regret it—I see that my letter hurt you, but only for a little while— **9** yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us. **10** Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.”

Colossians 3:16

“**16** Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.”

2 Timothy 4:2

“**2** Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.”

Hebrews 10:24-25

“**24** And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, **25** not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”