



It's important that God's Word continues after the message. At Celebrate, we find that you will quite often talk over this week's message long after our experience is over. That's because God has impact. The Sermon Discussion Guide is designed to help you continue the conversation all week.

In the Broadway production *Fiddler on the Roof*, Teve asks a question we all ask ourselves. How do we keep our balance? His answer was "by keeping our traditions". Living by traditions is living from the outside in, trying to do things from the outside to address needs of the heart that we have inside.

How did the actions of the scribes and Pharisees demonstrate their worship of their traditions above their worship of God?

*Mark 7:1-9; Mark 3:1-6; John 5:1-16*

Traditions and rules dominate our behavior when there is no relationship with God. How can this affect the way we live?

1. Our conversation becomes **contaminated**.  
*Proverbs 27:19; James 3:9-11; Luke 6:45*
2. Our witness becomes **warped**.  
*Matthew 5:16; Hebrews 12:14; Titus 2:7-8*
3. Our service becomes **selfish**.  
*Philippians 2:3-4; Matthew 23:10-11*

Now that we have a relationship with God through Jesus Christ, what steps can we take to begin living the life of freedom that He came to give us? Why will that create balance in our lives?

*Mark 7:14-15; Mark 7:20-23; James 4:8*

How did Jesus sum up all of the Law into a new "tradition" for us to follow? What steps can you take to live "inside out" as Jesus did?

*Mark 12:30-31*

### What's Next

- Shake off traditions in your life that keep you from a relationship with God.
- Examine the condition of your heart and let the Holy Spirit give you the power to overcome any issues that are not Christ-like.
- Love God and Love people.