

# The Gospel in Action (15) Trajectory Trumps Tradition

Mark 7:1-23

**Intro: Wash Your Hands Before Dinner**

## I. The Trouble With Tradition (v. 1-8)

## II. When Tradition Trumps God's Law (v. 9-13)

## III. What Truly Defiles (v. 14-23)

**Conclusion: The Trajectory of Your Heart**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Think back to your childhood. What rules or traditions did your family observe "religiously"? Were there ever any exceptions to the rules?
2. Traditions and preferences are not a problem, in and of themselves. It's ok to prefer a style of worship or to use a certain translation of the Bible. What are some of your "church preferences"?
3. These traditions only become a problem when we elevate them alongside or in place of God's Word (i.e. we follow our own traditions in place of the clear teaching of the Bible). How have you seen this play out in the modern church?
4. The Pharisees taught that right behavior leads to a right relationship with God. But Jesus reversed the flow, declaring that only a right relationship with God can produce right behavior. How is the HEART central to reversing the flow in our own lives?