

Mark 7 Discussion Questions

Check In: Did your student complete their challenge? Encourage them to do better this week. **Begin in prayer** and pray for them individual and specifically.

Recap Video: Watch the recap video from this past week's message [here!](#)

Bible Discovery: Read Mark 7:1-37

Main Idea: Have You Allowed the Attitude of the Pharisees to Creep Into Your Life?

***Use some, if not all, of the questions to facilitate a conversation about the scripture with your student. Mark has long chapters! Take multiple days to discuss if you need to! ***

- 1) What initially sticks out from the passage of scripture you read? Do you notice any themes?
- 2) What is this passage teaching us about God/Jesus/Holy Spirit?
 - a. How does Jesus respond to the criticism of the Pharisees?
 - b. How does Jesus treat the Syro-Phoenician woman when she asks for healing?
 - c. Matthew gives an important detail about Jesus' response to the Syro-Phoenician woman humbling herself. What is it? (**See Matthew 15:28**)
 - d. How does Jesus heal the deaf man in **Mark 7:31-37**? What do the people say about Jesus (**v.37**)?
- 3) What does this passage teach us about mankind and his relationship with God?
 - a. How does Jesus describe the Pharisees?
 - b. Today, how do we reject God's commands and teach/uphold man's commands? In what ways do we honor God with our mouth only? Are these things sins against God?
 - c. What does Jesus say defiles a man?
 - d. Jesus makes it clear that mankind has a sin problem and that the evil things of our heart defile us? Do you struggle with any of the sins listed here? What other sins that you struggle with?
 - e. Read 1 John 1:9. What should be our attitude towards sin in our own lives?
 - f. How does the Syro-Phoenician woman humble herself in the story? What does she call herself? What does this say about her faith?
 - g. How is the story of the Syro-Phoenician woman (who is a Gentile, like you and me) a picture of our salvation? (**see also John 1:11-12**).
 - h. How does pride and a lack of humility prevent people from being blessed by God or being saved by God?

4) What is this passage challenging me to change in my life?

In this story, we see fear play a major role in our closeness to God:

- a. In your life, how are you like the Pharisees? How can you go to God and ask him to change your heart towards Him and His word?
- b. Who is God challenging you to reach out to for the gospel? Who can you invite to youth next week? How can you be interceding for them? How can your small group intercede for you in prayer?
- c. What area of your life are you not willing to take to God?
- d. The Gentile woman fell at Jesus' feet and worshipped Him. God calls us to worship Him in spirit and truth. How can you worship God daily in your life?

Closing Thought: When you stand for Jesus, expect pushback. Praise God that he has promised that he will be with us always and give us strength to endure the pushback! Lord, help us to not live in fear!

Challenge: Encourage your students (**and yourself – Lead by Example!!**) to make a personal challenge that is specific and measurable that they can accomplish this week. End in prayer.

BONUS CHALLENGE: Challenge students to commit **John 6:35** or **John 6:69** to memory!