

## Jesus Confronts Jewish Traditions Matthew 15:1-20; Mark 7:1-23; John 7:1

The Jewish leadership in Jerusalem had challenged Jesus, and now Pharisees and Scribes traveled 80 miles north to Galilee. They came to spy and criticize Christ's ministry and teaching. The opposition would increase in frequency and intensity during His final year.

**“After these things Jesus walked in Galilee: for he would not walk in Jewry (Lit. - Judea ), because the Jews sought to kill him.” John 7:1** After the teaching of the bread of life discourse and the departure of followers, Jesus continued teaching and preaching in Galilee. Let's remind ourselves that Jesus had already stirred up the Religious Elitest, Pharisees, and Scribes by publicly breaking from their sabbath traditions (healed), speaking forgiveness to the paralytic man in Capernaum, did not fast as was their habit, openly calling them unsatisfied children, and sat with publicans and sinners. All of this caused the Religious Leaders great anger and hatred to the point of wanting to kill Him! (John 5:18; 7:19, 25; 8:37, 40) In John 6:4, we are told it was Passover season, but this was one Passover Jesus did not attend the Temple. He did not go to Jerusalem as most good Jews would do. Why? His time had not yet come to be offered. The next year, Christ will be the Lamb sacrificed for the sins of the world!

### I. The Accusation Pharisees and scribes accuse Jesus and the practices of His disciples.

**“Then came together unto him the Pharisees, and certain of the scribes, which came from Jerusalem .<sup>2</sup>And when they saw some of his disciples eat bread with defiled, that is to say, with unwashed, hands, they found fault. <sup>3</sup>For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, except they wash their hands oft (Gk - in a prescribed special way ), eat not, holding the tradition of the elders. <sup>4</sup>And when they come from the market, except they wash, they eat not. And many other things there be, which they have received to hold, as the washing of cups, and pots, brasen vessels, and of tables. <sup>5</sup> Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but (“transgress the tradition of the elders” Matthew 15:1) eat bread with unwashed hands?” Mark 7:1-5**

“Pharisees, and certain of the scribes” – These are a delegation of Religious Leaders from Jerusalem who came to monitor and challenge Jesus. They desired to find fault and discredit Him before the people. Perhaps hearing of the feeding of the thousands, Christ's message concerning His offering Himself for everlasting life, and the sudden leaving of followers, the Judean Religious Leaders felt it necessary to hound Jesus again, but now in Galilee.

“Tradition of the elders” – I want you to realize that this is a collective set of additional rules and regulations enlarging the law of Moses. Many of my study books went into great detail on their origins. Over the centuries after Moses, oral rules had been set up for the Jews, seeking to help clarify and assist in practicing of the law. After the return from the Babylonian captivity, they were recorded and brought together in a collection called tradition of the elders. Many of them were rituals seeking to cleanse from defilement caused by unclean people around them – Gentiles, Samaritans, unclean women, sinners. So, by very nature, these laws feed the people's pride! And these man-made rules had risen to the status of Scripture! When in opposition to the Scriptures, the traditions won out! Paul wrote of these in Col. 2:8 and then in Gal. 1:13-14, pointing out the importance of the

traditions to him before Christ. But praise God, the Gospel changed Paul's priorities! In 1 Peter 1:18-19, Peter also tells what is really important compared to the traditions.

“Eat bread with unwashed hands?” – The religious leaders were not asking Jesus about His disciples' breach of etiquette or concern for hygiene, but rather their performing of a “sacred act!” Mark will explain these Jewish rituals to his non-Jewish readers in verses 3-4. It really was a long, drawn-out process. Before and after meals, whenever returning from the marketplace or town square, Jews were to wash or take a bath according to certain ceremonial restrictions: their bodies, cups, pots, vessels, and tables needed to be cleaned. Hand washing was one of their pet peeves. I read about fingers pointing up first, a trickle of water, fingers down, pounding fists, water dripping off the wrists, and on and on. Again, it had nothing to do with dirty hands but cleansing the “filth” they may have touched, making them defiled. Walking four miles for water was taught to be better than eating without washing. These were burdensome, time-consuming practices put on the Jewish people. The foundation of all these actions was pride and a national elevation while putting others down! This was not the law of Moses. Only the priests were required to wash before eating holy offerings; no one else! In this event of Jesus, the Pharisees and scribes were there to call out Jesus for allowing His disciples to go unwashed. Everyone knew they mingled with sinners and didn't even purify themselves! It was inconceivable that the disciples would break these laws if Jesus hadn't already disregarded them. (Luke 11:37-38 – ongoing issue, perhaps about six months later) Please realize that this was not about Jesus and His disciples breaking the law or ignoring the Scriptures; this was all about the tradition of the elders.

**II. The Condemnation** Here, Jesus will point out the extent to which the Jewish leadership had taken the people from what God had desired for them. This is not the first time Christ reveals the difference between God's mind and how the Jews had interpreted the law. Can you think of a time when Jesus preached and gave examples of God's intention of the law? In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus dealt with the commandments of Thou shalt not kill, and Thou shalt not commit adultery, along with almsgiving, oaths, fasting, and love for their neighbor! Here, He will use comparisons to point out their disobedience. But first, Christ begins with a shocking statement that would have caught the ear of everyone there—He called the Jewish Elites a noncomplimentary name—hypocrites! Christ quoted Isaiah 29:13. You see, Isaiah had the same issue of hypocrisy among his listeners. These would “play religion,” keep rules, and look holy instead of loving and honoring God from the heart! But realize this is the default of man's sinful nature!

**“He answered and said unto them, Well hath Isaiah prophesied of you hypocrites (Gk - play actors – This does not carry the sting of name calling if used today.), as it is written, This people honoreth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. <sup>7</sup>Howbeit (Lit. – nevertheless) in vain do they worship me, teaching for (Lit. – as) doctrines the commandments of men.<sup>8</sup> For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. <sup>9</sup>And he said unto them, (“Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?” Matthew 15:2) Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.”**  
Mark 7:6-9

Lips honor God vs. Heart far from God (v. 6) – Jesus points out that their words sounded right, but their heart was wrong! They said, sang, and recited the right things, but none were in their hearts! We find God's condemnation of this throughout the Bible. Psalm 78:36-37; Ezekiel 33:31-32; Titus 1:10-16 – Paul's word to Titus concerning the same issues and the problem with Jewish religionist in his midst. J Vernon McGee, a pastor and national radio Bible teacher, once said, “Oh, people get involved today in creeds and church confessions

and public worship, dress, and even “separation. All of this can become a matter of tradition and not direct and personal dealing with the Lord Jesus Christ.” JVM p. 190

Worship me vs. Teach the doctrines of men (v. 7) — Jesus points out that their worship looked right, but in reality, they were teaching their own doctrines! From their wicked minds, they had come up with procedures and life-dictating rules that they taught even above the instruction from the Scripture! Again, J Vernon McGee said, “Worship is empty when the rules of men are substituted for the Word of God.” The Religious Leaders' worship was not motivated by love and awe of God but a desire to profit financially and gain power, prestige, and status.

Lay aside/Transgress/Reject God's commandment vs. Hold/Keep the traditions of men (v. 8-9 — Here, Jesus points out and accuses the leadership of abandoning all of God's commandments and substituting them with human standards, setting themselves up above God and His word! This is not an overstatement! They laid aside God's word for their traditions! Notice that Jesus didn't try to support, defend, apologize, or vindicate His disciples' actions but strongly communicated God's hate of their traditionalism. Jesus points out that keeping their own traditions was actually a total rejection of God's word! Let's not be too shocked and condemning of this religionist of Jesus' day; it's the way of religion when religion drifts from God's word! These man-made traditions added significant burdens and confusion to the Jewish individual. The worship of God became a drudgery. And this is what Jesus addressed when He called the Jewish nation to Himself in Matthew 11:28-30, “Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

## BA - #2 Hypocrite Check

**III. The Example** Christ will leave the hand-washing tradition behind and now deal with a very public disregard for the Law of Moses found in the daily life of the Religious Elite. It is recorded in Matthew 15:3 that Jesus asked, “Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?” He will now expose a common loophole the Pharisees would use to disobey God's command to honor parents.

**“For (“God commanded,” Matthew 15:4) Moses said, Honor thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death: <sup>11</sup> But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is Corban, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; he shall be free. <sup>12</sup> And (“honor not his father or his mother,” Matthew 15:6) ye suffer (Lit. - allow) him no more to do ought (Lit. - anything) for his father or his mother; <sup>13</sup> (“Thus” Matthew 15:6) Making the word of God of none effect (Lit. - void, nullify, invalidate the authority of) through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.” Mark 7:10-13**

God's commandment - “Honor thy father and thy mother;” – “Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.” Ex. 20:12 This verse is straightforward and easy to understand. Even the application in life, though challenging at times, is not complicated in theory - things like love, obeying, respect, listening, support, showing appreciation, being considerate, and taking interest. God takes honoring parents very seriously, for the lack of it carries the death sentence in His eyes!

**HW 10 #1; BA #1**

Man's Tradition – “Corban” – The religious leaders in Jesus' time had found a way to hide their finances and avoid the possible need for parental support. It was called “Corban,” based on the laws concerning vows found in Numbers 30:2. This was a vow required to dedicate money to a worthy cause, usually the Temple. It was a type of legal will that the money would be given after the death of the one making the vow. It is essential to understand that this money was still theirs to use, or even use up, but they could not give it away elsewhere! As Jesus said, they were profiting from this! So, if the parents needed money, the son could not give it because it was vowed away. The money was “Corban.” It had become a way to safeguard money from the support of parents, yet they looked very righteous! Another point of the Pharisees' guilt was this was something they encouraged among the people. The Temple would gain much money from people who would Corban their assets. They would be indirectly the benefactors. In all of this, they were disobeying the commandment of God, as Jesus points out!

“Making the word of God of none effect”—The Pharisees and scribes had seen Jesus as a heretic for not abiding by the tradition of the elders, but instead, He showed them that they were breaking the law of God by practicing their traditions! They had directly contradicted the intent of the law by their tradition.

“many such like things do ye.” – Jesus will use this phrase twice (V. 8, 13), highlighting the many traditions that had been added. These many traditions hurt others, nullifying the Word of God, all while profiting the religious ruling class!

**IV. The Declaration** Now, Jesus calls the people together to give truth concerning what truly defiles a man. We are going to see Jesus become very emphatic and energized in His teaching! These are important truths of God the people had forgotten!

**“And when he had called all the people (“multitude” Matthew 15:10) unto him, he said unto them, Hearken unto me every one of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup> There is nothing from without a man, that entering (“the mouth” Matthew 15:11) into him can defile him: but the things which come out of him (“the mouth” Matthew 15:11), those are they that defile the man. <sup>16</sup> If any man have ears to hear, let him hear.” Mark 7:14-16**

True Defilement—Into man vs. Out of man—Notice that Jesus began and ended this simple but profound statement with a call to hear and understand! “Hearken unto me every one of you, and understand.” “If any man has ears to hear, let him hear.” We better pay attention, too - listen carefully, understand, and apply! The Jews had been taught that they would be defiled by touching someone or eating something that was considered unclean; otherwise, they were clean. Logic would say the Jews considered themselves clean until defiled by something! Pretty blind; blind by pride! But here, Jesus makes it clear: It's not what goes into a man but what comes out of a man that makes him unclean. What comes out is the product of their sinful nature! These are bold, strong teachings to the Jewish ears. This was not what their religious teachers had taught and demonstrated to them!

## **V. The Explanation**

**“And when he was entered into the house from the people, his disciples (“said unto him, Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended (Lit. - angered, shocked, offended, displeased, indignant, insulted, upset, took offence ), after they heard this saying? <sup>13</sup> But he answered and said, Every plant (Lit. - law, rule,**

[doctrine, system, leader](#) ), which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up. <sup>14</sup> Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch. <sup>15</sup> Then answered Peter and said unto him, Declare (Gk - [\\_Explain\\_](#)) unto us this parable (Gk - [\\_hard saying, teaching of verses Mark 7:15\\_](#))." Matthew 15:12-15) asked him concerning the parable. <sup>18</sup>And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth ("into the mouth" Matthew 15:18) into the man, it cannot defile him; <sup>19</sup> Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats?" Mark 7:17-19

"Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended" – The discussion with the delegation from Jerusalem seemed to be over, but according to the disciples' comments, they didn't go away happy. It seems the Religious Leaders had understood enough to go away offended! What were they offended by? The truth of the Scriptures in light of their tradition. WOW! Remember, Matthew records the interaction between the disciples and Christ. This would be very interesting to Matthew's Jewish readers. To offend the Jewish Leaders would have been very dangerous to one's religious standing. We find many were fearful to believe or follow Christ because of the intimidation by the Religious "great ones" and the possibility of ultimately being excommunicated from the Temple. To lose the opportunity to give sacrifices and pray in the temple would be seen as a spiritual disaster to any good Jew at the time of Christ! The religious leaders held this kind of power over the people. A power God never intended anyone to hold! John 7:13; 9:22-25, 30-34; 12:42-43

"Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up." – Jesus uses the word picture to describe God as a farmer. If God didn't put in a plant (establish a law, rule, doctrine, religious system or even a leader), He would pull it out like a weed! These Pharisees were dangerous to listen to, and God would have to deal with them. Jesus is revealing the Pharisees would not last, and in about 40 years, with the destruction of the Temple by Titus, the Roman General, they were gone! This is a principle of God: if a work or worker for God is not established by Him or done according to His ways, the God of heaven will not bless, and it will not last. That can be teachings, institutions, leaders, programs, or whatever might be established without the hand of God.

In the phrase, "Let them alone," Jesus is telling the disciples not to be concerned with them, let them go, stay away from them, don't worry about them, leave them alone. These men were truly blind to the truth of God, blinded by their religion! Their end would be the ditch, a place of doom, injury, confinement, and death! Sadly, God abandoned them, He "let them alone," and Jesus told the disciples to do the same! But that is what God does when one rejects Him and His ways! Hosea 4:17; Rom. 1:21-28 (v. 24, 26, 28)

"Declare unto us this parable" – Peter wanted an explanation. These teachings make sense and seem simple to us in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, but to the orthodox Jew at the time of Christ, it was radical and astonishing! It was all very difficult for the Jewish mind to understand. They held to three major badges that separated them from the rest of the world. 1) Circumcision 2) Sabbath Keeping 3) Dietary restrictions. Jesus declared that food actually does not defile; no good Jew would have even considered that statement true. Some years later, here is Peter's testimonial concerning food; he was still stuck on "Jew" – Acts 10:14.

I want to make mention of a discussion I found in my study concerning these statements. With Christ's death on the cross, the wall of partition to God was torn, and the law that was to be meticulously followed was put away. Many believe that these statements concerning food do not defile; Jesus was hinting and paving the way for

these changes to come. This seems to be true, for Jesus often gave glimpses of future events – the cross, betrayal of Judas, His resurrection, and ascension.

“And he said, That which cometh out (“proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart ;” Matthew 15:18) of the man, that defileth (Gk - emphatic emphasis – makes unclean ) the man. <sup>21</sup> For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders,<sup>22</sup> Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness (“false witness” Matthew 15:19): <sup>23</sup> All these evil things come from within , and defile the man (“but to eat with unwashed hands defileth not a man.” Matthew 15:20).” Mark 7:20-23

The sinful nature of man – Jesus seemed discouraged by the lack of understanding among the disciples, for He had taught this before. Matt. 12:33-37 Here, He is very clearly laying out quite the list of ugly sins – murder, all kinds of sexual sins, lying, coveting, and wicked lawlessness! This list centers on the 6th-9<sup>th</sup> commandments – kill, adultery, steal, and bear false witness. And then Jesus tells them where they originate – the heart of man and then works itself out! In his commentary on Matthew, Craig Blomberg said, “Christians today ought to ponder long on the implications of verses 17-20.” We may be keeping all the expectations of our church culture: attend church, be faithfully involved, tithe, but our hearts could be full of the indulgences of sexual sins, mistreatment of fellow Christians, our children, our spouse, or our tongues out of control. We are naturally sinfully defiled! It’s not from the outside but pours out from the heart! Jesus finishes His explanation by stating that all these evil things come from the heart of man; the issue is they are sinfully unclean from the inside out, but to eat with unwashed hands doesn’t make a man unclean; because man is already unclean and sinful! **Finish with both a call for salvation, cleansing of our sinful nature, or a cleansing of our hypocritical, sinful heart.**

### **Believers Application:**

1. Let’s talk about “honor thy father and mother.” Verses: Children, Adults, or both? Eph. 6:1-3; Prov. 1:8-9; 23:22; 30:17; Ex. 20:12; 1 Tim. 5:8 These verses tend to instruct one concerning one’s whole life.

Honoring parents at any age includes being respectful, holding them up in high esteem, and giving them appreciation. When we are younger and still in the home under our parents’ financial support and guidance, we should accept their authority and obey them. Parents are the first authority in life and foundational to learning principles of obedience.

Parents are to love, protect, instruct, and discipline. But if they are hurting you, seek help. To honor does not command us to stay in harm’s way. If you or a friend is facing abusive or dangerous situations, get help right away. Call a counselor, someone in your church, or someone you trust. You need help to navigate the relationships and needs in your family.

If you were part of a difficult family with abusive parents:

- 1) Forgive them. Matthew 18:21-22; Ephesians 4:32
- 2) Pray for them. Luke 6:27-28
- 3) Love them. Show them Christ’s love Luke 6:27-28
- 4) Determine to learn about godly parenting and break the cycle

The reality is we have our parents longer as adults than we do as children. Appendix – 17 Ways to Honor Your Parents as Adults

2. Let's talk about "traditions of man" that can be part of our 21st-century churches. Using the Bible as the standard, how do we check that our "traditions" have not become yearly activities more than tools to do God's work? **HW #10 2.** The Jewish people had been led to substitute divinely revealed truth for religious customs. Oh, that we would learn that God's word does not need additions or amendments!

Define God's work: worship God, give the Gospel, holy living, disciple believers, love other believers, provide for the needs of others, be hospitable,

Our religious traditions can add richness and meaning to life as they help us learn and do God's will. However, they should not become "sacred laws" to us, and we must not assume that because our traditions have been practiced for years, they cannot be changed.

**Name "church traditions" you've known in your life:** cantatas; church choirs, special music, organ, piano, New Year's Eve game nights, youth activities, hymn books, coffee time, monthly Lord's table, church government,

Let's check our traditions and our attitude to them:

- How do we react if someone messes with "church traditions." Eliminate it; change it; Is our first reaction anger or insulted? Then we might have an elevated tradition! How should this be done? Slowly, with teaching, until a good majority of people are ready to change.
- Can we honestly say that our "church traditions" effectively do God's work in today's culture and society? Are we doing things the same way they were 40 years ago with little adjustment? Has our society changed – the way people get information? Dress when going out? Work schedules? People feel welcome, and their soul's needs are met. Are the different age groups of our churches feeling like they have a place and are important? Are we tuned in to the cultural sins and needs of our community and have equipped ourselves with tools to give them the truth?
- Are we happy with our box of "church traditions," or are we ready to think outside the box to do God's work?

In his commentary on Matthew, Craig Blomberg said, "How much church attendance and "Christian" activity preoccupy believers today with things they assume please God yet without ever really ministering or spiritually to the desperately needy people of our world? How much of our money is tied up in church buildings or spent only on programs and activities to make ourselves happy rather than caring for the hurting in our midst and across the globe?"

The bottom line is God's word and His directives, not our "church traditions." worship God, give the Gospel, holy living, disciple believers, love other believers, provide for the needs of others, be hospitable – Living or lives doing the Great Commission within our churches

### **Man's Tradition**

Outward Forms – bondage  
Rules  
Outward Holiness  
Neglect and Replace the  
Word of God

### **God's Truth**

Inward Faith – freedom  
Principles  
Inward Holiness  
Exalts the Word of God

2. Let's do a personal "Hypocrite" check:

- Do we pay more attention to outward forms of godliness than character? As many of you know, I went on a weight-loss journey about a year and a half ago and lost about 30 pounds. The plan I used

sought to get me more conscious of what and how much I put in my mouth. At the end of every day, I would record what and how much I ate. It was building a habit of food awareness. The question today is, do we worry more about what we put in our mouths than what is in our hearts?!

- Do we follow religious practices while allowing our hearts to be far from God?

Hosea 6:6 – Jesus will quote this verse twice in His ministry! Here’s another verse concerning our hearts before God from the lips of Jesus. Luke 16:15

- Do we emphasize our spiritual strengths and accomplishments and others’ sins and weaknesses?
- Do we seek to do things for God in the spotlight but do very little for God in private?

God has always desired the hearts of His people! This is true in the Old and New Testaments! Gen. 6:5; 8:21; Prov. 6:16-18; Jer. 17:9

1. Believe from the heart – Jer. 17:7-10; 29:13; Rom. 10:9-10
2. Love from the heart – Deut. 6:5; 10:12; 30:6 Jesus quoted these in Matt. 22:37
3. Sing from the heart – Ps. 138:1; Zeph 3:14 “Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the hearts O daughter of Jerusalem.”; Col. 6:13
4. Obey from the heart – Deut. 30:2; Rom. 6:17; Eph. 6:6
5. Give from the heart – Ex. 25:2; Deut. 15:7-9; 2 Cor. 9:7

When we claim to follow and honor God while our hearts are far from Him, our worship means nothing! Our actions and attitudes must be sincere, or we are hypocrites too! But if we confess this before God, He will forgive. Only God can cleanse the heart, and He is willing. Psalms 51:1-10, 16-17; 78:38-39

So what happened to the law of Moses – Eph. 2:14-15; Col. 2:14 The law was set aside at the cross to bring together a new group the church. The law points out sin to bring people to Christ. But no more difference between Jew and Gentiles.

# 17 Ways to Honor Your Father and Mother as Adults

Taken from

[www.focusonthefamily.com/live-it-post/honor-your-father-and-mother/](http://www.focusonthefamily.com/live-it-post/honor-your-father-and-mother/)

1. Tell Them You Love Them - A simple “I love you” can go a long way!
2. Show Appreciation - Let your parents know you understand what they do for you and your family.
3. Do a Chore for Your Parents - Choose one they dislike the most and do it without them knowing.
4. Show Love to Your Siblings - Get to know and understand each other and get along as much as possible.
5. Plan a Family Game Night or Trip - Your parents will be excited to spend time with you and your family.
6. Take an Interest in Their Hobbies - Show interest in something your parents love.
7. Listen to Their Stories - Ask your parents to tell you about their past and listen.
8. Communicate with your parents. - Tell them about your day, dreams, struggles, and aspirations.
9. Ask Them for Their Opinion - Asking for advice shows that you value their insight. Your parents have a lot of experience and wisdom to share.
10. Tell the Truth - Always be honest with your parents. This will build trust between you.
11. Don't be Disrespectful - When you disagree with your parents or feel emotional, it's easy to be disrespectful. Make a conscious effort to control your words and body language and be respectful.
12. Speak Well of Your Parents - Whether in public or private, keep your parents in high esteem by what you say about them.
13. Ask About Their Day - Take an interest in what happened to your parents that day. If there was an important event, remember to ask them about it.
14. Organize a Family Bible Study - Organize a Bible study with your family. Make it full of worship, prayer, and reading the Word together.
15. Research Your Genealogy - This is an excellent way to learn about your relatives and unearth some incredible family stories.
16. Compliment Your Parents - Give your parents a sincere compliment, and tell them often that they are doing a good job.
17. Make Room in your home or help provide for them financially if Necessary—Health or loneliness may require you to bring one or both of your parents into your home for a short or long period of time.

## Ladies Studying Jesus

### Homework – Vol. 5 #11

Jesus will continue His ministry of healing and teaching but in Gentile areas. Read these passages and be ready for a 10-point quiz next week!

Matthew 15:21-31; Mark 7:24-37

- 1) According to our passages, where did Jesus and the disciples first travel? **Area of Tyre and Sidon**
- 2) What was the request of the Canaanite woman? **Jesus to heal her demon-possessed little girl.**
- 3) The woman understood that Jesus came to the Jews first, but she persisted with this statement, fill in the blank, “Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their master’s table.” Matt. 15:27
- 4) What characteristic of the woman did Jesus commend? Pick one – **Her great faith**; her great persistence; her loud voice
- 5) Where did Jesus and the disciples travel second? **Near the Sea of Galilee, through the midst of the coasts of Decapolis. Mark 7:31**
- 6) Only one of our passages records the healing of the deaf and dumb man. Which one? Matthew or **Mark.**
- 7) Jesus often healed by word but the healing of the deaf and dumb man was very different. Name one of the five actions Jesus performed when healing him. **“And he took him aside from the multitude, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spit, and touched his tongue. And looking up to heaven, he signed, and saith unto him, Ephphatha, that is, Be opened.” Mark 7:33-34**
- 8) After the healing of the deaf and dumb man, what the people said is recorded. Fill in the blank, “And were beyond measure astonished, saying, He hath done all things well: he maketh both the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak.” Mark 7:37
- 9) True or **False** In this predominately Gentile area, Jesus did no healing among the people.
- 10) Fill in the blank concerning the reaction of the Gentiles to Jesus’ time with them. “they glorified the God of Israel.” Matthew 15:31

**Bonus:** Name one more action Jesus performed when healing the deaf and dumb man. **“And he took him aside from the multitude, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spit, and touched his tongue. And looking up to heaven, he signed, and saith unto him, Ephphatha, that is, Be opened.” Mark 7:33-34**