

HOLINESS

A SPIRITUAL VITALITY SERIES

14 Summoning the crowd again, he told them,
“Listen to me, all of you, and understand: 15
Nothing that goes into a person from outside can
defile him but the things that come out of a person
are what defile him.” 17 When he went into the
house away from the crowd, his disciples asked
him about the parable.

Mark 7:14-23 (CSB)

18 He said to them, “Are you also lacking in understanding? Don’t you realize that nothing going into a person from the outside can defile him?

19 For it doesn’t go into his heart but into the stomach and is eliminated” (thus he declared all foods clean). 20 And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him.

Mark 7:14-23 (CSB)

21 For from within, out of people's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immoralities, thefts, murders,
22 adulteries, greed, evil actions, deceit, self-indulgence, envy, slander, pride, and foolishness.
23 All these evil things come from within and defile a person.”

Mark 7:14-23 (CSB)

How is the transformation that God has made in our lives evident to the people around us? How is it evident in you?

Imitate Christ through our thoughts

14 Summoning the crowd again, he told them,
“**Listen to me, all of you, and understand.** 18 he
asks again, “are you also lacking in
understanding?”

Mark 7:14,18 (CSB)

Nothing that goes into a person from outside can defile him but the things that come out of a person are what defile him.”

Mark 7:15 (CSB)

What is within you?

What is causing you to be
impure, unclean, unholy?

And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him. ²¹ For from within, out of people’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immoralities, thefts, murders, ²² adulteries, greed, evil actions, deceit, self-indulgence, envy, slander, pride, and foolishness. ²³ All these evil things come from within and defile a person.”

Mark 7:20-23 (CSB)

How can we be holy and
set-apart for God if we are
spoiled, polluted and infected
with the sin of the world?

When he went into the house away from the crowd, his disciples asked him about the parable.

Mark 7:17 (CSB)

Is your heart, a house of
expectation or does it follow the
mixed motives of the crowd?

Where do you stand today in your expectation of what Christ can do and what life looks like when Christ is living and active within you?

Imitate Christ through our actions

He said to them, “Are you also as lacking in understanding? Don’t you realize that nothing going into a person from the outside can defile him?

¹⁹ For it doesn’t go into his heart but into the stomach and is eliminated” (thus he declared all foods clean).

Mark 7:18-19 (CSB)

The purpose of the mosaic laws
were to instill an awareness of
God's holiness and the reality of sin
as a barrier to fellowship with God.

What are the deeper evils
in your heart that you need
to rid yourself of?

Imitate Christ through Discipleship

1 Cor. 14:16 “I urge you, then, be imitators of me.”

1 Cor 11:1 “Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.”

Phil 3:17 “Brothers, join in imitating me...”

2 Thess 3:7-9 “For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us...”



DISCIPLE / *SHIFT*

FROM DISCIPLE TO DISCIPLE-MAKER

Octavius Winslow notes:

There is no single practical truth in the Word of God on which the Spirit is more emphatic than the example which Christ has set for his followers to imitate. The church needed a perfect pattern, a flawless model. It wanted a living embodiment of those precepts of the gospel so strictly enjoined upon every believer, and God has graciously set before us our true model.

“What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you”

Philippians 4:9 (CSB)

How and to who are you modelling your faith? To who have you said learn, hear, see in me... practice these things.

What good is within you that others need to practice and imitate?

When we keep God's goodness,
holiness and truth to ourselves, we
rob the world of it.

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