

Series: JESUS IS THE SUBJECT

Title: Inside Out

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What's the messiest food you enjoy eating: Burritos, ribs, sloppy joes, tacos, cotton candy, or do you avoid messy food altogether?

Read Mark 7.

In 7:3 why does Mark go to the trouble of explain these common practices of washing to his readers? Don't they already know?

For a Jew, what's wrong with eating a bacon/cheeseburger?

What are fence laws? Why do/did Jews observe them? Give an example or two. What's the downside of using them? Is there an upside for parents to use them?

If you were a Jewish religious leader, how could you believe Jesus is from God as he drastically breaks with tradition?

Have you ever stood up against tradition at home, with your church, or in a crowd? What was that about and how did it go?

Have you ever experienced a conflict between your religious obligations and your obligations to your family? What happened? How did you decide which was more important?

Should we equate being strict with being pure? Why or why not?

From this passage, what do you see as the underlying danger in being religious?

How does Jesus say we can detect real purity or impurity?

Read Philippians 3:8-9 and Romans 10:3-4. Paul describes his experience in keeping the Jewish law as blameless. Why was/is that not enough to become right with God?

How does Jesus end up being the subject in this story?