

Objective: Consider the importance of the word of God in the teaching of Jesus.

Icebreaker: What traditions from your culture, your country or your family do you look forward to because you really enjoy them?

To Start:

- 1. Let's review the memory verse Matthew 14:23
- 2. Let us briefly share some of our notes and/or our reflections derived from the teaching this weekend in Matthew 15:1-20.

To Observe a little and think a little:

1. According to verses 1 and 2, what seems to worry the religious leaders who traveled from Jerusalem?

2. Let's read verses 3 through 6 in various versions and then take a few minutes to develop our own paraphrase of these verses; at the end let's share them with the group.

- 3. What is the root of the problem that Isaiah denounced in his prophecy? Let's read verses 7 to 9 and share.
- 4. According to verses 10 to 20, what is the problem that all human beings share? What do religious people like the Pharisees usually do to avoid facing this problem? (The moderator explains the portion and encourages conversation with some other questions

To reflect:

- 1. Are you more concerned about people's hypocrisy or your own; the sins of others or yours own sins?
- 2. Is there any tradition that is preventing you from obeying any command of Jesus in his word?
- 3. How important are rituals (religious practices) when it comes to expressing your faith in God?
- 4. How does the Bible free you day by day from religious ideas, as well as your sinful and self-destructive nature?

Lets Pray.

Memory Verse:

Matthew 15:11 "What goes into someone's mouth does not defile them, but what comes out of their mouth, that is what defiles them."