



## The Heart of the Matter Mark 7:1-22

05.19.2024 Pastor Jonathan Steeper

*“These people honor me with their lips but their hearts are far from me.”  
Mark 7:6*

The old saying, “lip service” points to words that are good but are not backed by a devotion of the heart.

Unfortunately this is how Jesus described many religious people.

Disciple makers seek to train the heart first.

Today we learn from the Master on nurturing the “heart of the matter”.

Sermon Notes

Mark 7:1-22

### Disciple Makers: The Heart of the Matter

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#### 1. Religious Heart: The Descent of Worship

True worship—Clean **hands** and a pure heart (Ps 24:4)

Tradition—Going through motions without meaning 7:1-5

Rules—Our rules replace God’s commands 7:8

Hypocrisy— Our actions work against the word of God 7:9

#### 2. New Heart: The Reality of our Desperation

My sinful, dirty heart falls short of God’s glory 7:6,7

LORD give me a new heart by your grace and the **blood** of Jesus.  
Ps 51:10, Ez 36:26, 2 Cor 5:17 Jn 3:6,7

#### 3 Discipled Heart: Growing in Love for the LORD and People

Cut off Rebellion 1 Sam 15:23 Ps 106:43 Is 1:5

Discourage wrong choices Is29:22,24

Encourage right choices Is 29: 23 Eph 2:10

Ohana Groups gather to share, pray, and live out God’s Word together.