

Ministry around Galilee

Lesson aim: To show how Jesus dealt with those who were unteachable and persistent in practicing error

Conflict over ceremonial washing--Mt. 15:1-20 (Mk. 7:1-23)

- 1. How had the Pharisees substituted tradition for the commandments of God? What does it say about the heart of the one who does so?*
- 2. How does loyalty to men over God affect our worship?*
- 3. When one is "offended" by the truth, what should one do?*
- 4. What is it that truly defiles man? Do we then need to make distinctions between clean and unclean foods?*

Ministry to a believing Gentile woman in Tyre and Sidon--Mt. 15:21-28 (Mk. 7:24-30)

- 1. What qualities did the Gentile woman demonstrate that are worthy of our imitation?*
- 2. Why did Jesus perform a miracle for the benefit of a Gentile?*

Healings in Decapolis--Mt. 15:29-31 (Mk. 7:31-37)

- 1. What was the reaction to Jesus' miracles on this occasion?*

Feeding the four thousand in Decapolis--Mt. 15:32-38 (Mk. 8:1-9)

1. What does this episode teach us about Jesus?

Another encounter with Pharisees and Sadducees and Jesus' warning about their teaching--Mt. 15:39-16:12 (Mk. 8:10-21)

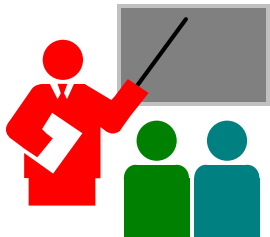
1. Why did Jesus refuse to give a sign to the Pharisees and Sadducees?

2. What warning did Jesus issue about them?

A blind man healed at Bethsaida--Mk. 8:22-26

1. Why do you suppose Jesus charged this man not to enter the village?

Discussion question:



To what extent were the disciples affected by the cultural views of their day? How did this hinder their ability to properly understand Jesus' teachings? How could we learn from their experience?