

Lesson Plan for Mark 7: 1-7; 14-15; 21-23

Opening Prayer: Thank you God for being with us today. We know that you are the author and giver of all good things; Please open our minds and hearts to love you that we would yearn to be nourished by your word and goodness. Help us to be transformed in the Power of your Holy Spirit into your likeness. In Your Name we pray, AMEN.

Getting to Know One Another: Share highpoints of your week with one another...where you saw God working in you and others.

Pass the Saying: *God loves you...Believe It Receive It (as we did in VBS this past summer...*(point to God point to your friend...then double Hi-Five)

LITURGICAL TEACHING: Collect of Purity: We say this prayer every Sunday in our worship liturgy. Let's say it together: ***Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name, through Christ our Lord, Amen***

God's Big Story: Mark 7: 1-7, 14-15, 21-23

Essential Learning:

1. God directs us to focus more on the Spirit of His Word not just the literal interpretation: Ask: What is God wanting to teach us about who He is and what He is doing and how we can be more like him?
2. Keep our focus on Jesus and His priorities.
3. Clean and unclean refers to the condition of our hearts...
4. A clean heart, filled with the Holy Spirit gives us the strength to be more like Jesus in any situation. Ask for this in prayer.
5. God wants us to have integrity: Be the same, growing in Christ's image, on the inside and the outside; same at church and at home, at school, with friends, with our family and SIBLINGS :).
6. Ask the Lord for the strength to have this integrity.
7. "As in water, face reflects face, so a man's heart reflects the man.

Proverbs 27:19

ACTIVITY OPTIONS

Reflection Sheet

Clean or Unclean Worksheet

Coloring Page

Word Search

Clean Heart Art Activity: Have children draw their own or use cut out hearts in different sizes to frame a prayer from their hearts: e.g. *Create in us clean hearts so we may be your living examples from the inside out!* See also proverb above.

Blessing: Lord, please bless each of these young disciples with clean hearts united with your Holy Spirit, so they may be your faithful examples to all the world. Amen