

CLEAN AND UNCLEAN

Matthew 15:1-20

Matthew 15

¹Then some Pharisees and teachers of the law came to Jesus from Jerusalem and asked, ²“Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? They don’t wash their hands before they eat!”

³Jesus replied, “And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition? ⁴For God said, ‘Honor your father and mother’ and ‘Anyone who curses his father or mother must be put to death.’ ⁵But you say that if a man says to his father or mother, ‘Whatever help you might otherwise have received from me is a gift devoted to God,’ ⁶he is not to ‘honor his father’ with it. Thus you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition. ⁷You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you:

⁸ ““These people honor me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me.
⁹ They worship me in vain;
their teachings are but rules taught by men.””

¹⁰Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen and understand.

¹¹What goes into a man’s mouth does

not make him ‘unclean,’ but what comes out of his mouth, that is what makes him ‘unclean.’”

¹²Then the disciples came to him and asked, “Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this?”

¹³He replied, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be pulled up by the roots. ¹⁴Leave them; they are blind guides. If a blind man leads a blind man, both will fall into a pit.”

¹⁵Peter said, “Explain the parable to us.”

¹⁶“Are you still so dull?” Jesus asked them. ¹⁷“Don’t you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body? ¹⁸But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man ‘unclean.’

¹⁹For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. ²⁰These are what make a man ‘unclean’; but eating with unwashed hands does not make him ‘unclean.’”

CLEAN AND UNCLEAN

Matthew 15:1-20

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) What makes a man "unclean?"
5		2.) Things that come out of the mouth come from where?
5		3.) Give some examples of things that come from the heart.
5		4.) Why do you think the Pharisees and teachers of the law were concerned about what makes a man "unclean?"

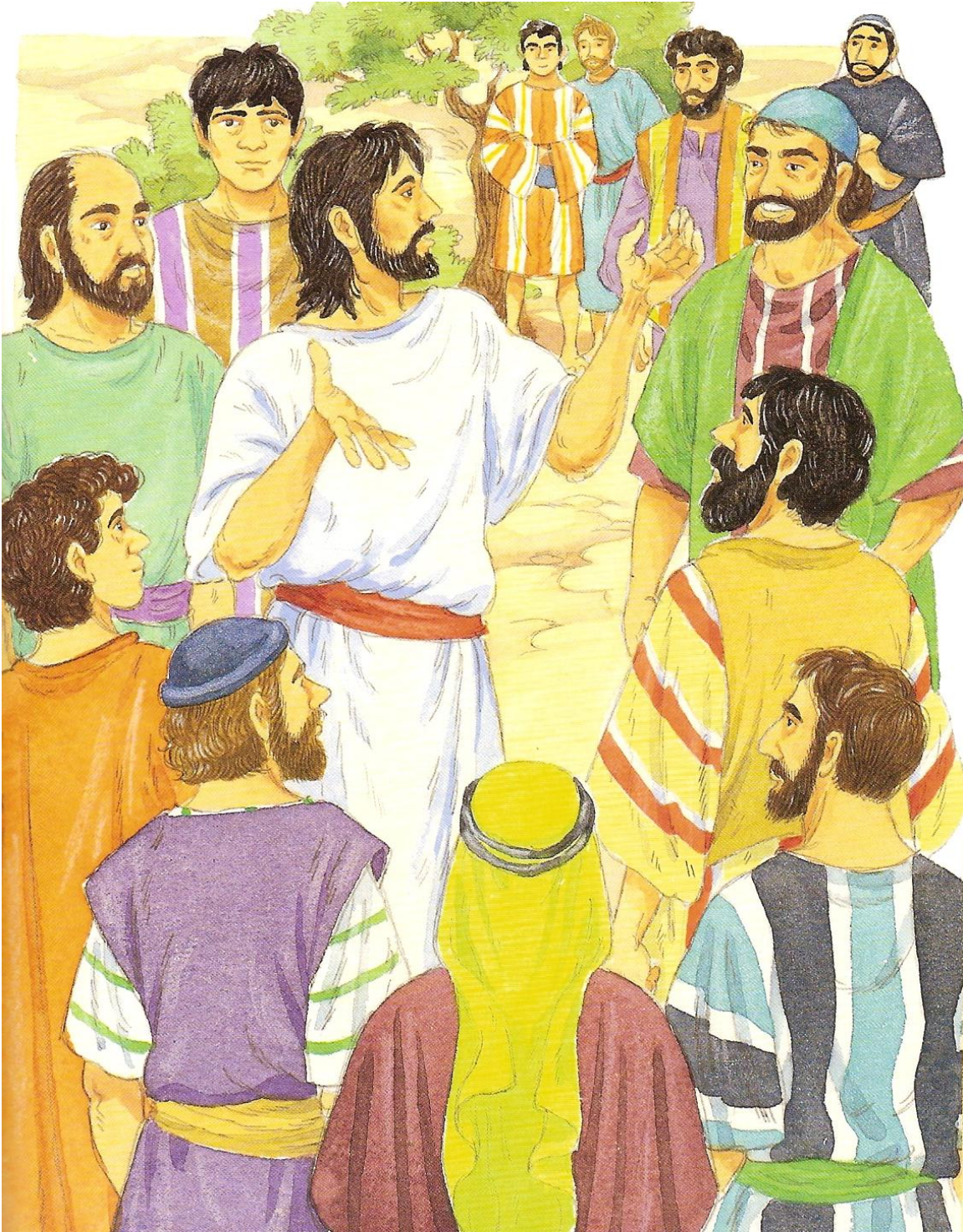
POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		"These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me." Matthew 15:8

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	HOME CONNECTION	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE
5		<i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i>	
5		<i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i>	
10		<i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i>	

TOTAL POINTS	CLUB CONNECTION
	LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE __/__/__

CLEAN AND UNCLEAN

Matthew 15:1-20



Picture from *The New Bible in Pictures for Little Eyes* by Kenneth N. Taylor. Moody Press: Copyright © 2002.

CLEAN AND UNCLEAN

Matthew 15:1-20



Jesus teaches the people that your heart makes you unclean, not what you eat

CLEAN AND UNCLEAN

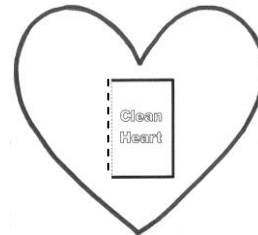
Matthew 15:1-20

CRAFT/ACTIVITY: CLEAN & UNCLEAN HEARTS

Students will make clean and unclean hearts to remind them that a man is clean or unclean based on what comes from his heart and not from what he eats.

MATERIALS

1. 67 lb. White Cardstock
2. Clean & Unclean Heart Patterns
3. Scissors
4. Crayons, Markers, or Colored Pencils
5. Glue



DIRECTIONS

1. Make copies of the “Clean & Unclean Heart Patterns” for each student onto 67 lb cardstock.
2. Have students color the “unclean” heart with a black or brown crayon, marker, or colored pencil.
3. Have students color the “clean” heart with a pink or red crayon, marker, or colored pencil.
4. Instruct students to cut out the hearts on the solid black lines. This includes cutting on the three solid lines inside the heart that makes the door to the heart open. Fold on the dotted black line. Repeat for other heart.
5. Have students put glue on the heart that says “glue”. Do *not* put any glue inside the dotted box. Then place the heart with the door on top. Repeat for other heart.

FOR DISCUSSION

As students are coloring their hearts, remind them that it is what comes from their hearts that makes them clean or unclean. Discuss the clean and unclean things that can flow from the heart.

TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:

Approximately 20 minutes

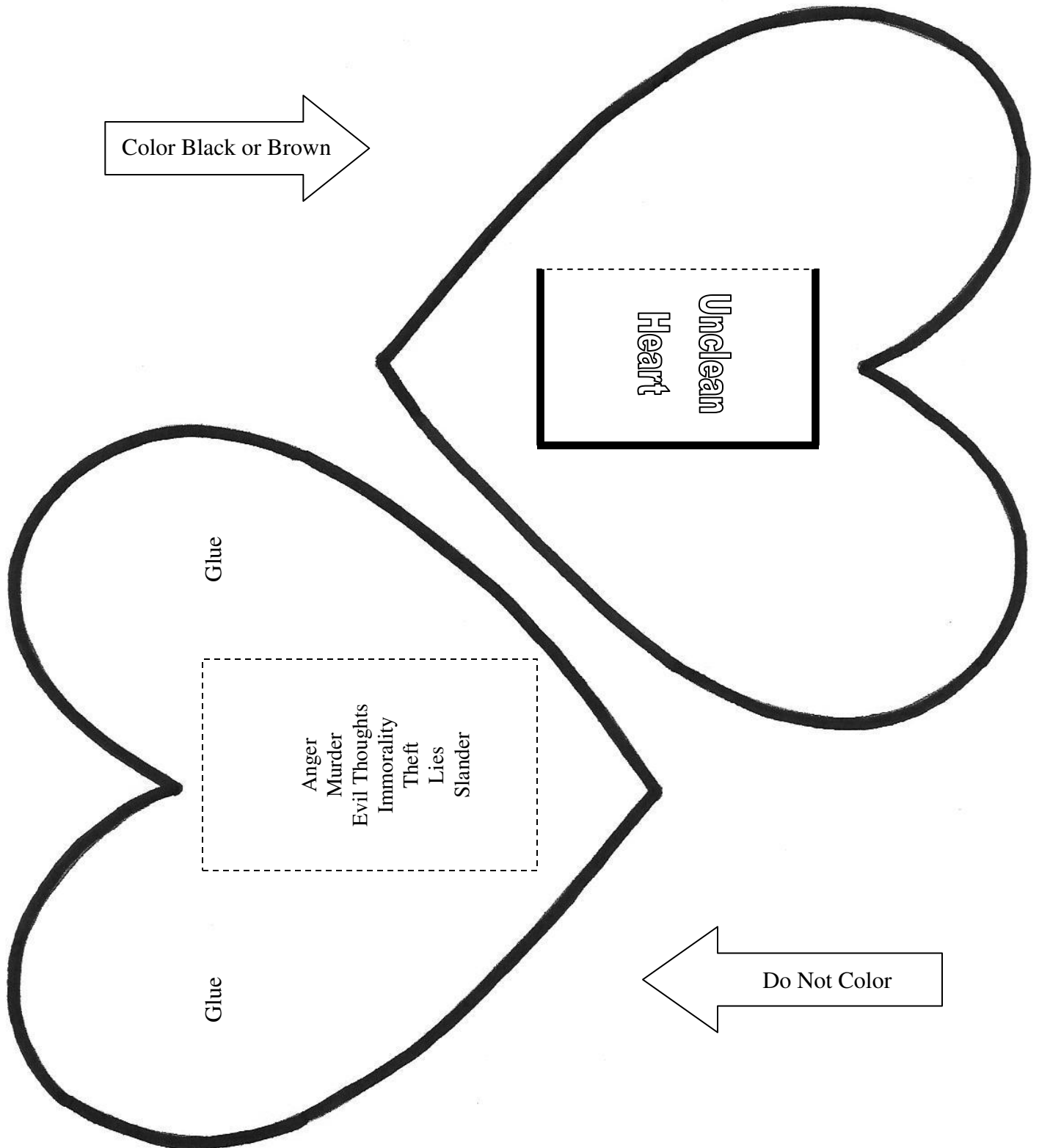
MEMORY VERSE

“These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.” Matthew 15:8

CLEAN AND UNCLEAN

Matthew 15:1-20

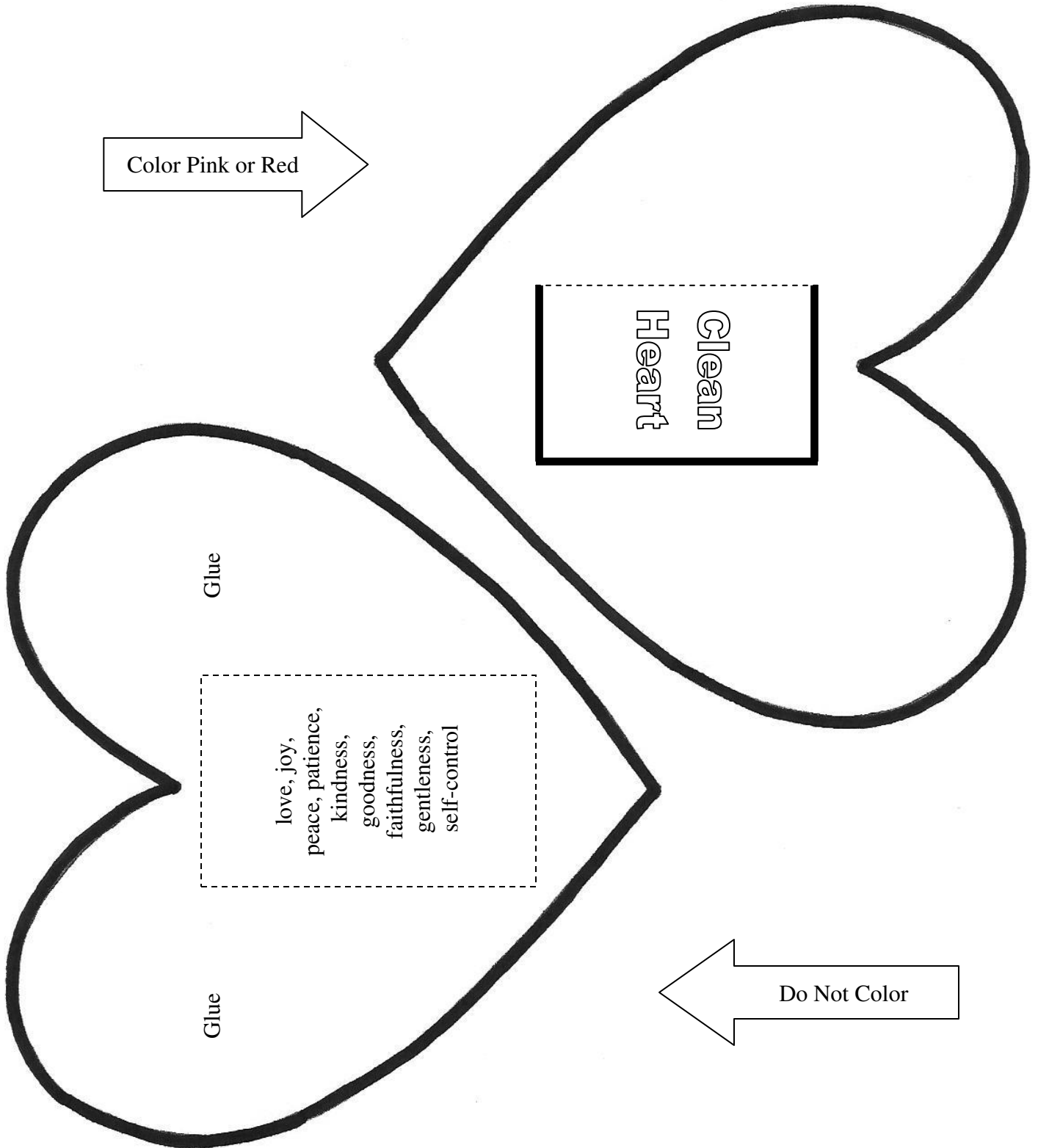
UNCLEAN HEART PATTERN



CLEAN AND UNCLEAN

Matthew 15:1-20

CLEAN HEART PATTERN



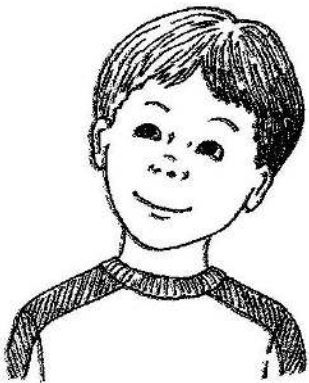
CLEAN AND UNCLEAN

Matthew 15:1-20

*List some things that can
make you "unclean."*

Today I learned _____

The memory verse means



Memory Verse:

"These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me."

Matthew 15:8

THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON MATTHEW 15:1-20

CLEAN AND UNCLEAN



Some Pharisees and teachers of the law asked why the disciples didn't wash their hands before they ate.

Jesus explained that what goes into your mouth does not make you "unclean," but what comes of your mouth can make you "unclean."

Peter still did not understand what Jesus was talking about.

Jesus told Peter, "What enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body. But the things that come out of your mouth come from the heart. Those things are what make you 'unclean.' Out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, stealing, lying, etc. Eating with unwashed hands does not make you 'unclean.'"

For more details, please read Matthew 15:1-20 in your Bible.

QUESTIONS

1. What makes a man "unclean?"
2. Things that come out of the mouth come from where?
3. Give some examples of things that come from the heart.
4. Why do you think the Pharisees and the teachers of the law were concerned about what makes a man "unclean?"

MEMORY VERSE

"These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me."

Matthew 15:8

TRUE OR FALSE?

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> | F | The Pharisees and teachers of the law spoke with Jesus. |
| <input type="radio"/> | F | The Pharisees asked why the disciples didn't wash their feet. |
| <input type="radio"/> | F | Jesus said that what comes from your lungs makes you "unclean." |
| <input type="radio"/> | F | Lying comes from your heart. |
| <input type="radio"/> | F | Eating with dirty hands makes you "unclean." |