

## 100% Nothing But

May 24, 2020 Dan McEvoy

Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life. Proverbs 4:23 (NLT)

The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? Jeremiah 17:9 (NIV)

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God." Matthew 5:8 (NIV)

"You're blessed when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world." Matthew 5:8 (MSG)

Matthew 15:1–9 (NIV)

This Week's Be Attitude: Religion is about leveraging rules; relationship is about living with a right heart.

The purity of man is the absence of something, the purity of Jesus is the presence of something." Ravi Zacharias

Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 1 Corinthians 11:28 (ESV)

## So, how's your heart?

- Are you whole?
- What are your motives?
- Do you have clarity?

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9 (NIV)

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. James 5:16a (NIV)

<u>Spiritual Practice for This Week</u>: Share a struggle with a trusted person and pray together.



## Study & Discussion for Your Next Small Group

Theme: Intention over Tradition

Share Together: What tradition (e.g., from a holiday, vacation, special occasion, activity) did you observe as a child that you have tried to keep up, and why is this tradition so meaningful to you?

Reflect Together: From last weekend's Online Experience: What impacted you most from the message and what are steps you took with the Spiritual Practice this week?

Read Together: Matthew 15:1-9

## Discuss Together:

- Why were the Pharisees questioning Jesus?
- Why did Jesus respond the way He did? (Refer to Dan's message for background regarding this.)
- How can we also "nullify the Word of God for the sake of tradition"? In other words, what are Christian traditions that are "good" but can sometimes hinder the pursuit of God?
- Why was Jesus so harsh with this group of religious leaders, calling them hypocrites and how were they being hypocrites?
- How has hypocrisy been an issue in our world and an excuse for unbelievers not to follow God?
- When Jesus quoted Isaiah's prophecy, how is that a warning to us as church-going Christians? What are some examples?
- How do we find a balance between intention and action as disciples
  of Jesus, having spiritual disciplines and yet remaining passionate
  for Jesus? What has worked for you that could help others who are
  in a rut?
- What is one area of your life that needs to change, to get your heart matching your activity or vice versa?

**Pray Together:** Take time to share what God is doing in answering prayer and also pray over needs in your group.