



**Million Dollar Questions - Jesus asked them. How will you answer them?
Scripture or Tradition? - Week 5**

This resource can be used to guide your personal anchoring time throughout the week, a small group discussion, or even a one-on-one conversation.

READ

Begin by reading Mark 7:1-13.

- As you read, highlight the action steps that Jesus instructs his disciples to take.
- What are some of your favorite family or holiday traditions?
- What questions do you have after reading these verses?

REFLECT

We all have various traditions within our family, work, and church. In the best cases within the Church, they can lead us closer to God. Yet, at other times they can present a clear and persistent danger if we elevate human rules and traditions over the Word of God. The challenge for us is to put Scripture above tradition as we continue to focus on loving God as we lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

- How can human traditions be an aid in helping us worship? Where have traditions helped you grow closer to God?
- *Reread Mark 7:6-7.* How can human traditions and rules sometimes impair us in our worship? What happens in your life and worship when you allow your traditions to be more important than God's word?
- What are some signals that might indicate you are following tradition over Scripture? Why does it feel difficult to cast aside tradition?
- Sometimes we are tempted to revamp, revise, reframe, reject, or replace the Word of God. Why is this something we, as believers, should avoid?
- How does putting Scripture before tradition help the church adapt and continue to make disciples as we share the love of Christ?
- *Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17.* In what ways is Scripture useful in your life and faith? How can you plan to spend time with God in Scripture so you can be "thoroughly equipped for every good work"?

PRAY

Begin your time of prayer by reading Psalm 139:23-24. Read it slowly. Now, use this verse to guide your prayer. To get you started...

FOCUS on the truth found in Scripture that helps you know God better.

THANK God for caring enough to both encourage and rebuke you in love.

CONFESS where you have added human rules in your faith over God's instruction.

ASK the Holy Spirit to search your heart and reveal where you are placing your traditions over His Word and mission.

***Keep going this week by reading these scriptures:**

Galatians 3:1-6

John 16:13-15

Proverbs 30:5-6

1 Thessalonians 2:13

