
Matthew Chapter 15

☐ 1. Warm-up (5-10 min)

Choose one:

- a. Has someone famous or very important ever come to visit you? How did it make you feel? What did you do during the visit?

- b. What is the most meaningful visit you have ever received? Who was it that came to visit? What did you do? Why was the visit so special?

☐ 2. Engaging the Chapter (15-20 min)

In this chapter some Pharisees and teachers of religious law from Jerusalem came to visit Jesus. As the story unfolds it quickly becomes apparent that it was not a friendly visit. The religious leaders were upset that Jesus wasn't upholding their standards. But even though Jesus was in trouble with these religious leaders of His day he wasn't afraid. Why do you think that was?

Do you think it is possible for the religious leaders of our day to be mistaken about some things? Why/why not? How should we respond to mistakes by leaders in our day? Why?

Have your parents ever admitted to making a mistake in front of you? How did that make you feel to know that your parents could make mistakes? How did it make you feel when they admitted it?

Do you think there will ever come a time when you will be perfect and no longer make mistakes? Explain?

How important is it for a person to know that what they are doing is right? Is it easier to stand up for what you believe if you are thoroughly convinced it is correct? Why/why not?

3. Applying the Chapter to Your Life (5-10 min)

Think through all the reasons why you go to church and pathfinders, etc. Ask yourself why you are involved in these activities. Write down any questions you may have about them. If you feel like you would like to learn more about God and the Bible ask your Pathfinder leader, youth leader or pastor if they would be willing to teach you more or show you where you find some good Bible study materials to help you find answers to your questions.

4. Prayer Time (3-5 min)

Pray and ask God to help you to understand more about Him. Tell Him that you don't want to just go through the motions of being a Christian or follow rules that you don't understand. Pray that He will bring people into your life that can help you to understand more.