

### **Lesson #16- Matthew Chapter 15 Questions for Discussion:**

1. The scribes and Pharisees came to Jesus with a question/ accusation that His disciples broke the tradition of the elders. Jesus answered with a question, "Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?" Discuss the difference between a command and a tradition. Are there any traditions we have adopted that violate the commands of God?
2. Looking at verses 7-9, what does it look like for us to honor God with our lips but have a heart that is far from Him?

3. The disciples make it known that the Pharisees were offended by Jesus' response to their question. What are your thoughts about how Jesus responds in verses 13-14?

4. Peter wanted an explanation for the parable Jesus gave the multitude, "Hear, and understand: Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man." Discuss Jesus' explanation of how this parable should be understood.

5. What do you think is the lesson(s) from the story of the Canaanite woman in verses 21-28?

6. Once again, Jesus feeds a great multitude of people, this time 4000 men plus the women and children. What similarities and/ or differences do you see compared to the feeding of the 5000? What lessons do you think we should learn from these stories?