

Understand your Bible

Suggested notes

Mark 7

What we will see in this chapter:

- Jesus' attitude to tradition
- Where evil comes from
- Jesus heals two more people

1 Read the chapter

2 Questions to help us in our understanding of this chapter. Look at the chapter verses in your Bible and use the questions to help you make your notes.

Chapter verses	Questions (to help with your notes)	Suggested notes
1 to 5	1. Why did the Pharisees find fault with Jesus' disciples?	The Pharisees found fault with Jesus' disciples because they didn't keep the Jewish tradition of ceremonially washing their hands before eating.
6 to 13 <i>Text note v 6: Jesus referred to Isaiah 29 v 13. v 10: quoted from Exodus 20 v 12</i>	2. What did Jesus tell them in reply? <i>Text note v11: Corban: An item dedicated to God while still in use by the owner.</i>	Jesus told them that the prophets had warned about their attitudes, and that they were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ rejecting God's commands in favour of their traditions ➤ making void the word of God
14 to 23	3. What did Jesus say about defilement?	Jesus said that what is important is what goes on in a person's mind. He warned that all our bad thoughts, attitudes and ways come from within us.
24 to 30 <i>Text note v 28: being called a dog would cause offence to most Jews.</i>	4. What attitude caused Jesus to grant the Syrophenician woman's request?	She showed her humility by telling Jesus that she was like a dog eating crumbs from the children's table.
31 to 37	5. What did Jesus do in the region of Decapolis and what was the people's reaction?	He healed a man who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech. Despite being told to tell nobody, they widely proclaimed it.

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3 Related theme from v 14 to 23: *We are inclined to bad ways.*

Have a look at these related verses and see this theme running through the Bible. Make a note of the main point(s) in the verse(s).

Bible verse(s)	Main point(s)
Jeremiah 17 v 9	The prophet Jeremiah tells us that we are deceitful and corrupt in our hearts.
Luke 16 v 15	The Lord Jesus says that things that we esteem highly are detestable to God.
Romans 8 v 7 and 8	The apostle Paul tells us that naturally we are bad in God's eyes.
James 1 v 14 and 15	The apostle James says that these bad inclinations have far reaching consequences.
James 3 v 5 and 6	He also says that our tongues can be used in very bad ways.