

## Sunday Worship 5<sup>th</sup> July 2020

**OPENING PRAYER:** Almighty God, nothing is hidden from you, not even the secrets of our hearts. By your Holy Spirit, purify our deepest thoughts, so that we may truly love you and bring honour to your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### SONGS:

Contemporary – *Undivided* <https://youtu.be/QhsGdWP1PCg>

Hymn – *It is well* - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TIWrEr7Fves>

**FAMILY SPOT:** *Kids Action News – Paul’s shipwreck* - [https://youtu.be/eeAHGt9\\_EqY](https://youtu.be/eeAHGt9_EqY)

**FAMILY SONG:** You are good <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VdAiV900gVM>

### Mark 7:1-8, 14-23

<sup>1</sup> The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus <sup>2</sup> and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. <sup>3</sup> (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. <sup>4</sup> When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.)<sup>5</sup> So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?”

<sup>6</sup> He replied, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: “These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. <sup>7</sup> They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.’ <sup>8</sup> You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions.”

<sup>14</sup> Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. <sup>15</sup> Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them.” [16]

<sup>17</sup> After he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about this parable. <sup>18</sup> “Are you so dull?” he asked. “Don’t you see that nothing that enters a person from the outside can defile them? <sup>19</sup> For it doesn’t go into their heart but into their stomach, and then out of the body.” (In saying this, Jesus declared all foods clean.) <sup>20</sup> He went on: “What comes out of a person is what defiles them. <sup>21</sup> For it is from within, out of a person’s heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup> adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. <sup>23</sup> All these evils come from inside and defile a person.”

**BIBLE SPOT:** *Who is this man? Jesus, the one who cleanses* - <https://youtu.be/Cw0uCbSp-XU>

**CONFESSION:** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you are merciful and kind, but we have gone our own way, not loving you as we ought, nor loving our neighbours as ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed and in what we have failed to do. We deserve your condemnation. Father, forgive us. Help us to love you and our neighbour, and to live for your honour and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**COMMUNITY SPOT** You can't ask that!?! <https://youtu.be/9Mn4SMbuz28>

**Psalm 45:1-17**

<sup>10</sup> Listen, daughter, and pay careful attention: Forget your people and your father's house. <sup>11</sup> Let the king be enthralled by your beauty; honour him, for he is your lord. <sup>12</sup> The city of Tyre will come with a gift, people of wealth will seek your favour. <sup>13</sup> All glorious is the princess within her chamber; her gown is interwoven with gold. <sup>14</sup> In embroidered garments she is led to the king; her virgin companions follow her— those brought to be with her. <sup>15</sup> Led in with joy and gladness, they enter the palace of the king. <sup>16</sup> Your sons will take the place of your fathers; you will make them princes throughout the land. <sup>17</sup> I will perpetuate your memory through all generations; therefore the nations will praise you for ever and ever.

**PRAYER SPOT:** <https://youtu.be/HABIEMMx6Mk>

**PRAYER**

Gracious God, we humbly thank you for all your gifts so freely bestowed on us, for life and health and safety, for freedom to work and leisure to rest, and for all that is beautiful in creation and in human life. But, above all, we thank you for our Saviour, Jesus Christ, for his death and resurrection, for the gift of your Spirit, and for the hope of glory. Fill our hearts with all joy and peace in believing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**LORD'S PRAYER:** Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

**SONG:** Nothing but the blood of Jesus - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=auD5qA1hBs0>

**FINAL PRAYER:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.

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**FOR LATER:** *Is Jesus the only way to God? Two videos, one by Tim Keller and the other as part of the usual "Reasonable Faith" series.*

<https://sites.google.com/view/swacresources/reasonable-faith?authuser=0>

Below is a study guide..



How can Jesus be the only way to God?

Tim Keller -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tTa7b86Ojds>

What is the difference between Jesus claim compared to the founder of every other religion?

If this claim is true, what does it force us to accept?  
What does Keller say about any other possible way to God?

John Stott, in his book, *The Incomparable Christ*, suggests Mark 8 gives us three things Jesus claimed that we need to consider:

- Consider who Jesus claimed to be – the Son of God, the Messiah (Mark 8:27-30)
- Consider what Jesus came to do – to die for our sins on the cross and conquer death, (Mark 8:31-33)
- Consider what Jesus asks of us – accept His gracious gift, then follow Him, as Lord and Saviour (Mark 8:34-38)

Discuss these claims, and the following related verses from the Bible:

Claim 1, Son of God. We have considered this in our first video in this series. Mark 8:27-30 above is one of many verses.

Claim 2. Die for our sins and rise victorious over death, for us.

- 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 Christ died for us.
- Romans 5:1-11. Christ died to make peace for us with God.
- John 11: 17-27, "I am the resurrection..."
- John 14:6 I am the way
- John 3:36, who has the son has life
- John 5:24 Who has the son has life
- 1 John 5:6-12 he who has the son has life.
- 1 Cor 15:12-22, If Christ is not risen then our faith is vain.

Claim 3, What Jesus expects of us.

- Mark 10:46-52 Blind Bartimaeus, "Your faith has healed you"
- Mark 2:1-12 Cripple healed due to faith of his friends,
- Luke 7:36-50 Jesus forgives sinful woman
- Mark 9:27-31 Jesus heals two blind beggars,
- Acts 4:8-12, No other name for salvation
- Rom 10:9 If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
- Rom 10:10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

What do we have to do to be saved ie to become a Christian, or follower of Jesus, or inherit eternal life?

Dr Craig video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RRYq6RwzIEM>

Christian particularism is the “dangerous” idea that Christ alone provides the way to God. It is as scandalous today as it was in the first centuries A.D.

Religious pluralism, people are happy to accept that Christ is one of many ways -

- Some religious pluralists say all the world’s religions teach basically the same thing, so they are all true,
  - but the major religions often contradict each other. One vivid example is the difference between Moslems and Buddhists. What are some differences?
  - Can you think of differences between Christianity and any other religion?
- Other religious pluralists say all religions are false, equally valid but equally false cultural expressions of mankind’s search for truth.
  - But why can’t one religion be true?

Religious pluralists often use arguments with Logical fallacies – errors of reasoning that render their argument invalid.

- **Arrogance.** Anyone who believes Christianity is the only true way, is arrogant. Therefore Christianity is false.
  - But the truth of a statement cannot be judged on the character of the person making the claim. (argument ad hominem). Eg if an arrogant person discovers a cure for cancer, is his claim false?
  - Double edged sword, the pluralist can be accused of being arrogant.
- **Cultural relevance.** Religions are culturally relevant; your religion depends on where you were born. Therefore, religious beliefs are not objectively true
  - This is a genetic fallacy, to claim the view is invalid because you can show how a person came to believe it.
  - But the truth of a view is independent of how a person came to believe it.
  - This also is a double-edged sword, as the person arguing for it can be seen to believe it due to where he was born.

What conclusion can we draw from this video?

Do you think followers of other religions are particularists or pluralists?

Next video: the problem of those who have never heard of Jesus.