

Women's Bible Study
Discussion Questions

Matthew 15

1. Read Matthew 15:1-9 and then consider the following. In Jesus' time religious leaders developed traditions that became more important in daily life than God's laws. Can you think of any types of cultural authority that influence us today more than God's laws do? List one or two of them and then describe in specific ways how these cultural influences impact how you live your life.

2. What is the Pharisees' priority in their relationship to God? What does Jesus say should be our top priority in honoring and worshipping God?

3. Based on Jesus' teaching in verses 10-19, describe how following Jesus demands more of the disciples than following the Pharisees.

4. As you examine your heart in light of this chapter, do you discover any areas of your life where you value outward appearances more than you value the state of your own heart or someone else's heart?

5. Matthew 15: 21-28 describes the persistent faith of the Canaanite woman seeking healing for her demon-possessed daughter. In what specific ways does this woman's behavior resemble that of the persistent neighbor in Luke 11:5-8? How does Jesus respond to the Canaanite woman's request? Why does he commend her? What aspect(s) of her character can we apply to our own walk with Christ?