

Matthew
Gail Arterburn –2026

Monday, 9:30 – 11:00 am
To be discussed –06/01/26

Matthew - Lesson 20
Matthew 14:34-15:20

1. Read Matthew 14:34-36. Contrast the response of the crowd Jesus encountered in Gennesaret with the response of the people in his hometown of Nazareth (13:53-58). Why were those who touched his cloak healed? Was there some mystical power in the cloak itself?
2. Read Matthew 15:1-9. What issue was raised by Pharisees in vv. 1-2? Were the disciples breaking the Mosaic Law?
3. How did Jesus counter their accusation with one of his own? (vv. 3-6) What example did he give as evidence of his charge?
4. We all hold some religious traditions. What was wrong with the Jews' view of their traditions? How did they *nullify the word of God*?
5. Why did he call them hypocrites? How did they fulfill the prophecy of Isaiah 29:13?
6. Read Matthew 15:10-20. What did Jesus want the crowd to understand in light of what the Pharisees had said in v. 2? How did the Pharisees respond? (v.12)
7. Thinking back to the parable of the wheat and the weeds (Matthew 13:24-30), who is Jesus identifying as weeds in 15:13-14? Why should they not be followed?
8. Can you think of possible reasons the disciples had a hard time understanding the teaching of v. 11 when it seems pretty obvious to us? (Leviticus 11)
9. What is the root source of sin (uncleanness)? Can we rightly blame our sin on others or on external causes? Why or why not?