

## **Sermon: From the inside out**

### **A new start in life**

John 3:1-8

Religious observance will \_\_\_\_\_.

Salvation takes \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_.

“Born again” means to be made new \_\_\_\_\_.

Ezekiel 36:24-28

### **How to have eternal life**

John 3:9-17

“Believe” means \_\_\_\_\_ more than just \_\_\_\_\_.

Hebrews 11:6

# Bible Study: From the inside out

## Getting to know you

1. What religious service or ritual has had the greatest impact on you? How would you describe that impact?
2. When have you felt the closest to God? Was it during a religious service or something else?

## Going deeper

3. Read Mark 7:1-8. How would you describe the difference between Jesus and the Pharisees in the way they related to the commands of God?
4. Are there human traditions or rules that we follow in our church that have nothing to do with the commands of God?
5. Read Mark 7:9-13. W.C. Fields was once caught reading the Bible,

which was out of character for him. When asked about what he was doing, he said, "Looking for loopholes." Jesus gave one example of a human-made loophole that negated a command of God. What does the search for loopholes say about our heart and about our relationship with God?

6. Read Mark 7:14-23. Where does Jesus say is the source of our defilement? So, if our lives aren't what they should be, what does this say about how we can be cleansed?

## Putting it into practice

7. There are things we ought to do and things we want to do. Many people want to be good so they willingly give up what they want in order to do what they ought...for a while. Our problem is that we will all eventually do what we want to do. Our only real salvation is if we change so that what we want to do and what we ought to do are the same thing. Examine your life. Do you desire the will of God or do you really just want what you want? If you need to, ask God to give you a new heart to desire his will.