

Dish Rag

Scripture:

Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. (James 1:21-22)

Main Message:

In order for the word to transform us and save us, we must rid our hearts of worldliness and wickedness, and with clean hearts, become the doers God requires of His children.

Materials List:

- (1) Dish Rag
- (1) Hot, Soapy Water

Song: *Break My Heart*

Lesson:

What is the most humble, but useful, kitchen tool you can think of? In my home it is the lowly dish rag. I use it to wipe up spills and clean the counter, so inevitably it gets extremely dirty. If I left it that way, all manner of germs would grow and fester, causing it to become stinky and dangerous. Before long, the whole kitchen would be smell and be filled with germs and my family could become ill. For my dish rag to continue to be a useful tool, I must remove its filth and germs and wash it clean.

In much the same way, our hearts can harbor icky and dangerous thoughts that make us useless in serving God. What may start out as a seemingly harmless thought, can harbor much wickedness if left to grow unchecked. The result is a heart not fit to do the work of the Lord. It can make us selfish, quarrelsome, or angry...quite un-Christ-like. David discovered the danger of letting wicked thoughts become wicked actions and needed the cleansing of his heart that only God could provide. He prayed in humility for God to create in him a clean heart so that once again, he could be a worthy servant...a doer of God's word. Like David, we must continually check our hearts for what remains of wickedness and keep it pure so that our actions will reflect our growth in becoming more and more like Christ each day.

Prayer: Ask God to search your heart and show you the things you must change to become what His will requires.