

# CLEAN OUT THE GUTTERS

## SCRIPTURE:

*Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
And renew a steadfast spirit within me. (Psalm 51:10)*

## MATERIALS LIST:

- (1) ladder
- (1) pair of gloves
- (1) trash bag

## MAIN MESSAGE:

Like rain gutters, our hearts can be blocked and clogged by things we have allowed to enter. We cannot let bad things go into our hearts purposefully and expect good things to come from our lives. When we have soft and pure hearts, we will be able to grow much closer to God and serve Him better.

## SONG: "My Eyes Are Dry"

## LESSON:

It's a rainy day outside, and I look outside to see that water is flowing over my gutters. I see the water look like it is just pouring off the top of the house and not going down the side of the gutters like it needs to. I am not sure how long this has been going on because I just noticed it by chance. Most likely this is all happening because the gutters are filled with leaves, bugs, and if I'm really lucky that nasty stinky gunk that sticks to the bottom of them.

When this happens, it is time to clean out the gutters. I go get a ladder, pair of gloves, and a large trash bag out of the garage. I set the ladder up and climb up to take a peak at what I am about to have to do. Oh My! When was the last time anybody actually looked up here and cleaned out the gutters. Why did it get this bad? Eventually the gutters got cleaned out, and I noticed that the next time it rained, the gutters were working like they were supposed to.

The same questions I asked about the gutters are the same questions I ask of myself and of you. When was the last time we actually looked at our lives and cleaned out the gunk? Why did we let it get so out of hand? There are many things that get in the way and block our gutters. It could be television, the internet, books, work or even money. It could literally be anything; the issue is that we as Christians are called to do a job that we aren't doing. Instead of cleaning out the gutters of our lives we are the ones that are clogging them up, and we may not even know we're doing it because we simply aren't paying attention. We need to daily examine ourselves and everything that we do with purpose to make sure that our hearts remain clean and pure!

**PRAYER:** Help us to focus on keeping our hearts pure, and may we never become hardened to sin.