The JOURNEYMEN

"We are journeying unto the place of which the LORD said,
I will give it to you: come with us, and we will do you good..."
-- Numbers 10:29

Book Study – Matthew 15:1-39

Clean and Unclean – Faith of the Canaanite Woman – Jesus Feeds the Four Thousand

Before We Begin Our Journey...

1. What traditions have special meaning to you?
2. What is your greatest success in pursuing a goal and finally reaching it?
3. What recent news regarding hunger or poverty have you heard?

Do Some Digging and Pre-planning...

4. What was wrong with the Pharisees? (15:7-9)
5. How did Jesus shift the emphasis away from external issues (unclean and clean foods)? (15:10-11)
6. How did Jesus redefine "unclean"? (15:17-20)
7. What reason did Jesus give for being reluctant to help the woman? (15:26)
8. What quick and insightful reply did the woman make to Christ? (15:27)
9. How did Jesus praise the woman? (15:28)
10. What note of concern did Jesus share with His disciples after He healed the people? (15:32)
11. Where did Jesus turn to feed the crowd and how much food was left over? (15:37)

Sort, Organize, Gain Understanding...

12. How is it possible for us to be "religious" and yet be far from God?
13. **Write down** two ways in which we "go through the motions" of the Christian life?
14. How does our persistence in prayer show God's character?
15. How persistent are you in your prayers to God?
16. What feelings do you have toward the less fortunate and how do those feelings help or hinder your ministry to them?
17. **Write down** one reason why do you think God works through us when he could get things done "better and faster" by doing miracles?

Application for the Journey...

18. What is one step you can take to develop a pure heart this week?
19. What long-term, unanswered prayer request do you need to continue bringing before God on a regular basis?
20. How does God want you to meet the physical needs of someone in your life?

A prayer for your journey…

"Lord Jesus, as I walk through this coming week, help me prepare for my journey by reading my Bible more regularly, seeking help as I need it from my Christian friends and focusing on the needs of others instead of myself. Help me to demonstrate my faith by stepping into the unknown, untried, and untested areas of my life." -Amen

Direction Finder...