

Matthew 15 Study Guide

In this chapter Jesus confronts the religious rulers about their substituting their man-made laws for God's laws and their failure to keep God's laws. But what are God's laws. Jesus in this chapter only mentions one.

READ. Find that one example of God's laws that Jesus mentions and write it here.

Jesus, however, has already spoken of other laws that are God's laws. Some of those are in the Sermon on the Mount in chapters 5-7. Find two of those and write them here.

1. _____

2. _____

Notice that God's laws are usually about what we should do as citizens of the Kingdom of God, such as pray in secret and settle differences with your brother. They have to do with relationships – with God and with others. They are not religious rules about fasting and hand washing. In fact, just as a reminder, go back to Matthew 9:13 and find what it is that God desires. Write that here.

APPLY. The story in verses 21 – 28 about the Canaanite woman contrasts the attitudes of people who are thinking like the religious fakers with the way God thinks. The disciples want Jesus to ignore the woman because she is not a Jew. That would be the standard attitude of Jews. Jesus looks at her with mercy. That is God's attitude.

Describe a situation in your experience where God's attitude is different from the attitude of people.
