

SERMON SERIES: 52

SPEAKER: Scott Beckenhauer

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Sermon Title:

“Can Jesus Make Me Clean?”

Introduction

While we have been in our 52 series so far this year, we've had the opportunity to talk about a lot of questions. Last week we discussed a big one, “does God care about my pain?” We learned about how our faith in God doesn't deny reality, but invites a faithful God to our reality. This week we get to take a closer look at the question, “Can Jesus make me clean?” and what the Bible says about it.

- Would you say you are usually a clean and organized person, or are you okay with a bit more disorganization and mess?

Seek the Word

- Read the story of Naaman the leper, who was cleansed in 2 Kings 5. What lessons can you learn about your own faith and prayer life?
- Read Ephesians 5:26, 2 Corinthians 7:1, and 2 Timothy 2:21. According to these verses, what does it mean to be clean?
- What does Mark 1:40-45 tell us about the power of Jesus?

Go Deeper

Choose one word from Mark 1:40-45 and do a brief word study. Using tools like a Bible concordance or the free Blue Letter Bible website, look at where else your word is used in the Bible. Ask questions like, “what did this word mean originally?” and “why might the author have chose to use this word?”

Talk About It

- What kind of people are avoided today because they are “unclean”?
- Who do you know that is good at including those others might avoid?
- Have you seen Jesus cleanse your heart recently? How have you been working to become more like him?
- Is there a person you have been avoiding who you can share Jesus with?

Wrap Up

Reminder: God longs for you to be healed and restored.

Challenge: Go to one person you typically avoid, and ask this question, “Would you be willing to tell me your story?” If they ask for clarification, simply say you want to hear a bit about their life so you can understand them better.