

TRADITIONS, TRIGGERS, AND TESTS

28 APRIL 2024



**“People look at the outward
appearance, but the LORD looks at
the heart.”**

— 1 Samuel 16:7 (NIV)



EVERY NATION
SINGAPORE

HOOK

 Start the conversation by saying...

To animate Sully's full body of fur in *Monsters, Inc.*, Pixar animators had to consider the effects of velocity, acceleration, and force on each piece of fur, as well as studying actual furry animals.

ENGAGE

 Go deeper with this...

A finished movie doesn't reflect what really happens behind the scenes. In the same way, a person's actions may not necessarily reflect their true motives.

LINK

 Connect to God's truth by sharing...

- While He was on earth, Jesus taught us certain truths about external performance and internal transformation.
- Religious traditions can make us look good on the outside, but only God sees our hearts.
- This is an example of external performance: If we only attend church because we are told to, it will eventually lead to destruction and not lasting transformation.
- Instead, doing good should reflect the transformation that happens internally.
- Our final authority is God's Word, not people's.
- Finally, faith pleases Jesus. Our heart is revealed when we put our faith in Him in spite of seemingly impossible obstacles.

PAUSE

 Pick a question and pray together...

Discuss Together

- The Pharisees thought they were superior because they kept the traditions, but their hearts were far from God. Has there been a time you put external compliance before heart change? What helped you realise what you were doing wrong?

Pray Together (*pick one*)

- Pray for God to speak to you and open your eyes to any areas of your life where you may be performing.
- Pray that your heart would be set on internal transformation, not external compliance.
- Pray for your faith to persevere as God transforms you from the inside out.

TRADITIONS, TRIGGERS, AND TESTS

28 APRIL 2024



Jesus replied, “And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition?”

– Matthew 15:3 (NIV)