

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for January 5, 1986**

**Reformation Versus Relationship**  
**Matthew 12:43-50**  
**Dale Whitehead**

1. Reformation:

Morality by itself can be much more dangerous than immorality. The Pharisees are an example.

Who are the most difficult people to reach for Christ? Those who think themselves to be all right on their own.

**Verses 43-45**, Immorality cleaned up (seemingly) or externally changed to morality; immorality returns with those even more wicked than before.

Though more moral his house is empty, his heart is empty. Who possesses the heart?

2. Relationship:

The issue is not morality but Christ and a personal relationship with Him.

**Verse 46**, Jesus is inside speaking and His family arrives outside.

The relationship of Christ with His disciples transcends all human relationships.

We are Christ houses. He is the strong man who occupies the house.

**Matthew 12:29**

Do we do the will of the Father in heaven?

1. Repent
2. Recognize our short-comings
3. Accept Jesus

#### 4. Live life according to Jesus

No man is free except through a relationship with Jesus.