**Life Team Bible Study**

For the week of May 20 – Beatitudes wk 5 – Pure Heart

**HANG**

* Have you ever grown something? What? Did it survive? Why, why not?
* How would you describe your heart? How would others?

**HEAR**

We continue our study on the Beatitudes - the word means “blessings”.

All the “beatitudes” in Matthew 5 begin with “Blessed are…”

**Matthew 5:3-11**

* Can you quote them yet? Try to memorize.
* Can you explain how each of the beatitudes build upon each other?

**Let’s focus on the next one**

**Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.**

* Sunday, we talked about two types of heart – do you know what they were?
* Do you remember a couple of characteristics of those two hearts?

**A rebellious heart towards God -** Is deceitful, emotionally driven, and selfish. Our choices and desires act selfishly and cause pain and suffering.

**A surrendered heart to Christ -** Produces a well spring of life. A pure heart (in Christ) results in a new will and healthy decisions - one that speaks and makes decisions determined to honor & please God.

* Why do you think God cares so much about our heart?

**\*\*\* In the bible the heart represents our will - inner person, motives, attitudes, and our choices. The “heart” is a symbol for the control center of our life.**

**Proverbs 4:23, Jeremiah 17:9, Matthew 12:33-35, Psalm 37:4**

If our heart is in submission to God (a pure heart) it will produce life and make Christ honoring decisions. If it does not it is destructive and selfish.

**Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.**

* What does it mean to have a pure heart?

**\*\*\* Pure means “to be cleansed from dirt & filth” – a clean heart. Innocent of evil. Jesus says the center of our will and choices needs to be pure.**

**Psalm 26:2, Psalm 139:23-24, Psalm 51:10-12, Ezekiel 36:26, Acts 15:9, 2 Corinthians 2:15**

* How does God cleanse and create a new heart? A pure heart is one who is washed clean by the grace of God through Jesus Christ.

**Mark 4:1-9**

* Can you explain this parable? What do you think it means?

**Jesus explains the parable of the sower to his disciples (10-20)**

The sower is Jesus – the seed is God’s word.

The 4 soils are 4 types of hearts - given God’s word

* **Walked path = hard heart- Satan steals it away (v.14-15)**
* **Rocky soil = shallow heart- receives, grows, but never roots (v.16-17)**
* **Thorny soil = distracted heart- receives, grows - drawn away (v.18-19)**
* **Good soil = attentive heart – ready, hear, accepts, bears fruit (v.20)**
* According to this parable, will everyone say yes to Jesus? No. Why?
* According to the parable, is everyone who says yes to Jesus truly His? No. Why?
* According to this passage what is the best way to know id someone heart truly has the truth? Over time & seasons they grow.

**\*\*\*Our heart is designed to be feed, nurtured, and grow.**

* According to parable of the sower, do healthy hearts always grow quickly? No
* Let’s talk about how to feed, nurture an grow our heart.

**Having a healthy Heart – what it looks like to have a pure heart:**

* **A pure heart seeks to have a single-minded devotion to God**

**Matthew 22:37, James 4:4,8, Acts 13:22**

* What do you think it means to have an undivided heart?
* How might this affect our choices and actions?
* **A pure heart seeks to show compassion and integrity**

**1 Timothy 1:5**

* How does having a pure heart result in love for others and a deeper faith?
* **A pure heart seeks to have a pure life**

**Psalm 24:3-5, Psalm 19:14, Philippians 4:8-9**

* To have a pure heart is to seek to live a holy life? What does that mean? A pure heart desires to live a holy and honorable life before God and others.
* How does dwelling on the things of God help us in our walk with God?
* **A pure heart rests in the peace of God’s protection**

**John 14:27, Philippians 4:4-7, Isaiah 26:3, Colossians 3:15**

**When Jesus has your heart – he will protect it.**

* What do you think it means that God will protect your heart?
* Does that mean it will never be hurt? It means, that no matter what you go through or what heart ache you experience – Jesus still has your heart!

**Ask yourself – what type of heart you think you are right now?**

**What are your heart’s vital signs?**

**HUDDLE**

**Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.**

* Are you prepared to see God? How do you know?

**HOME**

When making tough decisions: Instead of just following your heart…

* What does God say? 2 Timothy 3:16-17/ Proverbs 3:5-7
* What do the facts say? Proverbs 19:2-3/ Proverbs 22:3/ Proverbs 13:16
* What does wise counsel say? Proverbs 19:20, 12:15, 15:22, 14:7, 12:5
* How will this impact others? Philippians 2:3-5

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**Matthew 5:3-11**

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**A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_to Christ -** Results in a new will and healthy decisions - that speaks and makes decisions determined to honor & please God.

**Proverbs 4:23, Jeremiah 17:9, Matthew 12:33-35, Psalm 37:4**

**1. The heart represents our will, inner person, motives, attitudes, and choices.**

**The “heart” is a symbol for the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

If our heart is in submission to God (a pure heart) it will produce life and make Christ honoring decisions. If it does not it is destructive and selfish.

**Psalm 26:2, Psalm 139:23-24, Psalm 51:10-12, Ezekiel 36:26, Acts 15:9, 2 Corinthians 2:15**

**2. Pure means “to be cleansed from dirt & filth” a clean heart. Innocent of evil.**

**Jesus says the center of our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ needs to be pure.**

**Mark 4:1-9**

**3. Our heart is designed to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Having a healthy Heart – what it looks like to have a pure heart:**

**Matthew 22:37, James 4:4,8, Acts 13:22, 1 Timothy 1:5, Psalm 24:3-5, Psalm 19:14, Philippians 4:8-9, John 14:27, Philippians 4:4-7, Isaiah 26:3, Colossians 3:15**

* **A pure heart seeks to have a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_devotion to God**
* **A pure heart seeks to show \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
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