

Paradox
Week 7-Blessed are the Pure in Heart

Matthew 5:8 – “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.”

Our natural heart

Jeremiah 17:9-10 (NLT) – ⁹“The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is? ¹⁰ But I, the LORD, search all hearts and examine secret motives. I give all people their due rewards, according to what their actions deserve.”

- The word heart is used to describe your mind, your will, your emotions, your passions, and your desires ...everything in you that drives you to do what you do.

We need to have Jesus change our hearts

Ephesians 3:17 (NLT) – ¹⁷ Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God’s love and keep you strong.

Ezekiel 36:26-27 (NLT)

- **Jeremiah 17:10** tells us that we all have secret motives of the heart. Those motives and desires can lead us to do the wrong thing, the right thing for the wrong reason, OR the right thing for the right reason

Acts 8:18-22 (HCSB)

- It’s not enough to do the right thing. It has to be done for the right reason

Matthew 23:25-28 (NLT)

- Having a pure heart means having a changed heart

A changed heart leads to changed desires

1 Peter 1:14a (NLT) – ¹⁴ So you must live as God’s obedient children. Don’t slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires...

- The motives of my heart are to be pure. Not self-centered or wicked, or deceptive
- And as our desires begin to change our actions begin to change as well...but it all starts with the heart.

A changed heart leads to changed desires

Psalm 24:3-4a (NIV) – ³Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? ⁴The one who has clean hands and a pure heart,

James 4:8 (NIV)

How do I have a pure heart?

1.) Allow God to create it

Psalm 51:10-12 (NIV) – ¹⁰Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me...

- Having a pure heart is not something you can create in yourself. You have to allow God to do work in your heart. It starts with acknowledging that you need a pure heart, and asking God to help you with that.

1 John 1:9 (NIV)

2.) Allow God to search it

Psalm 139:23-24 (NIV) – ²³Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. ²⁴See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

- Pray daily that God would search your heart and point out to you any areas of your life that are not in alignment with his will for your life.
- Once God reveals these areas of your life, repent of them.

Hebrews 4:12 (NLT)

3.) Allow God to fill it

Psalm 37:4 (NLT) – ⁴Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you your heart's desires.

- As we grow in our relationship with the Lord and we take delight in spending time with Him and learning more about who He is, our desires begin to fall in alignment with His desires.
- When His desires become our desires, we ask for things that we know He will give us.

1 John 5:14-15 (NIV)



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