

WHY YOUR HEART MATTERS

WEEKLY ACTION STEP

Take a moment to write down the expressions of your inner heart. What are your greatest desires? Your emotions about life and about others? Your passions? What state is your heart in (broken, numb, full, soft, etc.)? Ask God to search your heart and lead you to where He wants your heart to be. Pray Psalm 139:23-24 this week.

TAKEAWAYS

- The heart determines every aspect of your life from what you say to what you do.
- Above all else guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it for a guarded heart produces good things, and a neglected heart produces bad things.
- Only God can truly judge a heart.
- The Christian life is not about sin management, but it is about letting Jesus fill your heart.

SCRIPTURE

1 Samuel 16:7; Jeremiah 17:9; Proverbs 4:23; Luke 6:41-46; Psalm 139:23-24

QUESTIONS

1. The condition of our heart can have a tremendous impact on how we treat others. When have you or someone else cared for others in a way that demonstrated a compassionate, full, or loving heart?
2. Pastor Ron reminds us that many of us can have heart problems due to our attitudes and mindsets. When has your heart attitude caused you discomfort or pain? (As a result of a hard heart, a broken heart, a numb heart, etc.)
3. In Luke 6:45, we are told that the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. What can you do daily to fill your heart with God's values and characteristics?
4. Jeremiah 17:9 says that the heart is deceitful above all things. How should this inform your understanding of yourself and the world around us? Share when your heart lied to you?
5. Read Ezekiel 36:26-27. What does God promise to do for us in this passage when we turn to him? In verse 27, what will the new spirit and heart cause us to do? How have you seen this in your own life? If you haven't seen this change yet, what might be the reason?
6. Read Luke 6:41-45. Do you tend to judge others before looking at yourself? Why do you think this is? Look at Genesis 3:8-14. How do you see this tendency playing out for Adam and Eve? In what ways might the world look more favorably upon Christians if we took Jesus's words in this passage to heart?

7. Pastor Ron said don't get hung up on the fruit (actions), but instead focus on the root (heart). How is it more healing to focus on allowing Jesus to fill us rather than focusing on ridding ourselves of sin?