

CHOSEN

ATTRACTING GOD'S ATTENTION

#1 It Starts With The Heart

1 Samuel 16:1 (NIV) The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king."

1 Samuel 16:6 (NIV) When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD."

1 Samuel 16:8-11 (NIV) Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "The LORD has not chosen this one either." Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The LORD has not chosen these." So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" "There is still the youngest," Jesse answered. "He is tending the sheep." Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives."

1 Samuel 16:7 (NIV) But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

1. Your _____ is the _____.

Matthew 12:34 (NIV) You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

Luke 16:15 (NIV) He said to them, "You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of others, but God knows your hearts. What people value highly is detestable in God's sight."

Matthew 12:22-25 (NIV) Then they brought him a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute, and Jesus healed him, so that he could both talk and see. All the people were astonished and said, "Could this be the Son of David?" But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this fellow drives out demons." Jesus knew their thoughts....

Acts 1:24-25 (NIV) Then they prayed, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs."

Mark 12:30 (NIV) Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.

2. Your heart _____ your life.

Proverbs 4:23 (NIV) Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

Luke 6:45 (NIV) A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

3. Your heart has a _____.

Examples of dangerous heart conditions:

● *A distanced heart.*

Mark 7:5-6 (NIV) So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?" He replied, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: "These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me."

● *A dark heart.*

Romans 1:21 (NIV) For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.

● *A disobedient heart.*

Jeremiah 5:23 (NIV) But these people have stubborn and rebellious hearts; they have turned aside and gone away.

● *A hard heart.*

Hebrews 3:7-8 (NIV) So, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts..."

● *A worldly heart.*

Luke 21:34 (NIV) Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap.

● *A complacent heart.*

Deuteronomy 8:11-14 (NIV) Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

● **An angry heart.**

Ephesians 4:31 (NIV) Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.

4. Your heart can be _____ - _____.

Jesus will:

● _____ your heart.

Ezekiel 36:25 (NIV) I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols.

1 John 1:9 (NIV) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

● Give you a _____ heart.

Ezekiel 36:26 (NIV) I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

● _____ and _____ your heart.

Acts 3:19-20 (NIV) Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.

● _____ your heart.

Psalms 34:18 (NIV) The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

● _____ your heart.

Zechariah 4:1 (NIV) Then the angel who talked with me returned and woke me up, like someone awakened from sleep.

● _____ your heart.

John 14:27 (NIV) Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.