



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Speaker: Chris Royalty
Sunday: June 28, 2020

- 1) Begin your time by briefly praying and asking the Holy Spirit to help you as you discuss and study.
- 2) What do you think about this statement about that Chris began his sermon with:

“Our hearts aren’t leaders. They are meant to be led.”
- 3) Read Jeremiah 17:9 and Matthew 15:19 together.
- 4) What are these verses teaching us about our hearts?
- 5) I (Ben) once told a former student of mine that she shouldn’t follow her heart, and cited Jeremiah 17:9, and she got really angry and said that her heart had never led her astray. Why do you think she got so mad? Why are these verses potentially offensive to us?
- 6) Read these quotes from Jon Bloom:

“ . . . your heart has sociopathic tendencies. Think about it for a moment. What does your heart tell you? Please don’t answer. Your heart has likely said things today that you would not wish to repeat. I know mine has. My heart tells me that all of reality ought to serve my desires. My heart likes to think the best of me and worst of others — unless those others happen to think well of me; then they are wonderful people. But if they don’t think well of me, or even if they just disagree with me, well then, something is wrong with them. And while my heart is pondering my virtues and others’ errors, it can suddenly find some immoral or horribly angry thought very attractive.”

“If we make our hearts gods and ask them to lead us, they will lead us to narcissistic misery and ultimately damnation. They cannot save us, because what’s wrong with our hearts is the heart of our problem. But if our hearts

believe in God, as they are designed to, then God saves us (Hebrews 7:25) and leads our hearts to exceeding joy (Psalm 43:4).

Therefore, don't believe in your heart; direct your heart to believe in God. Don't follow your heart; follow Jesus. Note that Jesus did not say to his disciples, "Let not your hearts be troubled, just believe in your hearts." He said, "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me" (John 14:1)."

- 7) What sticks out to you in these quotations? Do you agree? Do you disagree?
- 8) Apart from Jesus, our hearts are untrustworthy guides. We need to constantly renew our minds by spending time with Jesus in prayer and in the word. Has there ever been a time when after spending time with Jesus that God completely changed your mind or attitude about something? Share.
- 9) As a group read Psalm 42:1-3.
- 10) In light of these verses, what do you love about God? Take a few minutes as a group, go around the circle, and answer this question, "I love God because _____."
- 11) Read Matthew 16:24-26 together. What sticks out to you?
- 12) End your time in prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to help apply to your life what you've been learning and discussing.