

“A Better Way 10” The Undivided Heart

I. A Friend of God

A. Jesus is a Friend that is Closer than a Brother

Proverbs 18:2 (TPT) Some friendships don't last for long, but there **is one loving friend who is joined to your heart-closer than any other!**

- * Abraham is Called “The Friend of God”.
- * Adam Enjoyed Friendship and Communion with God in the Garden.
- * Enoch is Described as a Man who Walked with God.
- * Moses spent 40 days with God on Mount Sinai.

B. Knowing God

John 17:3 (TPT) **Eternal life means** *to know and experience You as the only true God, and to know and experience Jesus Christ, the Son whom you have sent.*

C. God's Passionate Love

John 14:21 (TPT).²Those who truly love me are those who obey my commands. **Whoever passionately loves me will be passionately loved by my Father. And I will passionately love you in return and will manifest my life within you.”**

II. An Undivided Heart

Ezekiel 11:19 (NIV) **I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh.**

We Determine whether Our Hearts are Sensitive or Hardened; There is nothing We can do to Make God Love Us More, but there are Things We can do that will Harden Our Heart Toward God and Make Us Love Him Less.

A. Guarding Our Heart

Proverbs 4:23 (NKJV) **Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it *spring* the issues of life.**

PRINCIPLE 1: A Hardened Heart is not Just Something that is Symptomatic of People Who are Living in Sin and Open Rebellion toward God; Christians can become Hard if They do not Guard Their Hearts.

B. The Hardened Heart

Hebrews 3:8 (NKJV) ***Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion,*** *In the day of trial in the wilderness,*

PRINCIPLE 2: A Hard Heart is One that is Insensitive and Unyielding to God. This Process Happens Little by Little and We don't even Realize How Far We've drifted Away from God!

III. What Hardens a Person's Heart?

A. Willful Disobedience

James 4:17 (NKJV) Therefore, **to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.**

PRINCIPLE 3: When We Deliberately Disobey God and do What He Tells Us Not to Do, Our Heart Becomes Unresponsive to Him!

B. Incorrect Priorities

Matthew 6:33 (NKJV) But **seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness**, and all these things shall be added to you.

DEFINE: Focus - to Seek After; Think Upon.

PRINCIPLE 4: If Anything Other than our Relationship with the Lord Becomes the Primary Focus of our Life, Our Heart Will Become Uncaring and Calloused Toward God.

C. Misdirected Interest and Activities

Luke 10:41–42 (NKJV) ⁴¹ And Jesus answered and said to her, “Martha, Martha, **you are worried and troubled about many things.**” ⁴² **But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.”**

PRINCIPLE 5: A Hard-Hearted Person is Someone that is so Preoccupied with What They Want, that they are Oblivious to What God Wants!

D. Becoming Unaware of God

PRINCIPLE 6: The Average Christian is Unmindful of God’s Voice and Encountering the Supernatural, Because They are more Engaged in Their Natural Surroundings.

Romans 8:7–8 (NKJV) ⁷ Because **the carnal (earthly) mind is enmity against God**; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. ⁸ **So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.**

PRINCIPLE 7: In Other Parts of the World, there are Miracles happening every day; God is No Different there than in America, but there is a Great Difference in the Condition of People’s Hearts.

Mark 6:51–52 (NKJV) ⁵¹ Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled. ⁵² **For they had not understood about the loaves, because their heart was hardened.**

E. The Fear of Man

Proverbs 29:25 (NKJV) **The fear of man brings a snare**, But whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe.

PRINCIPLE 8: People May Mean Well, but We Cannot be Moved by What Others Say and Think; We Must be More Focused on What God Says and Thinks and Continue to Yield to Him.

Matthew 9:24–26 (NKJV) ²³ When Jesus came into the ruler’s house, and saw the flute players and the noisy crowd wailing, ²⁴ **Jesus said to them, “Make room, for the girl is not dead, but sleeping.” And they ridiculed Him.** ²⁵ **But when the crowd was put outside, He went in and took her by the hand, and the girl arose.**