

Upcoming Events

Ladies Bible Class: Today at 4:00 p.m.

Panera Bread Open Bible Study: Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Hebrews class Mondays at 10:00 a.m.

Inspirational Quotes about the Heart

“Tears come from the heart and not from the brain”.

Leonardo da Vinci

“Put your heart, mind, and soul into even your smallest acts. This is the secret of success”. Swami Sivananda

“You change your life by changing your heart”. Max Lucado

“Start each day with a positive thought and a grateful heart.”
Roy T. Bennett, The Light in the Heart

September Birthdays

3 Wendy Cortes 11 Marie Burruss 15 Marcos Perales
16 Jim Burruss 24 Mason Perales
30 Dortha Gentry 30 Kurt Hoffman

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Preacher:
Mike McKnight

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The Godly Heart of the Longest Chapter

By Dan Jenkins

I am not sure why some Bible trivia stays with you, but I am amazed at how many people know the longest chapter in the Bible. One remarkable aspect of this psalm is that the Bible is mentioned in some way in 174 of the 176 verses in this chapter. David, the author of most of the psalms, was a man whose heart was like God's heart. How tragic it is that many today do not understand the relationship between loving the Bible and being people who have the heart of God.

In this psalm, the 119th, the heart is mentioned more than a dozen times. Take a moment and look at the psalmist's description of the heart of those who love the Lord.

- **The godly heart is blessed by God.** “Blessed are those . . . who seek Him with the whole heart” (119:2). The same verse shows that seeking Him is directly related to keeping His testimonies.
- **The godly heart praises God.** “I will praise You with uprightness of heart, when I learn Your righteous judgments” (119:7).
- **The godly heart seeks God and hides His word in the heart to void sin.** “With my whole heart have I sought You . . . Your word have I hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You” (119:10-11).
- **The godly heart is enlarged by devotion to the Bible.** “I will run the course of your commandments, for You shall enlarge my heart” (119:32).
- **The godly heart observes the Bible and gains understanding** (119:34).

- **The godly heart overcomes covetousness by listening to His precepts** (119:36).
- **The godly heart finds favor and mercy because of its understanding of His word** (119:58).
- **The godly heart overcomes those who slander because it keeps His word** (119:69).
- **The godly heart longs to be blameless in keeping His statutes** (119:80).
- **The godly heart rejoices in His testimonies, for they are his heritage forever** (119:111).
- **The godly heart performs His statutes to the very end** (119:112).
- **The godly heart is heard by God because he keeps His statutes** (119:145).
- **The godly heart stands in awe of the word of God** (119:161).

May God help our hearts to be like the heart of the man who had the heart of God!

Do I Have a Heart for Devotion?

By Aaron Veyon

Someone once said, “I know that we are expected to keep the Lord’s commandments, but I have a hard time wanting to. It just seems to take too much effort to be a Christian.” Sadly, I have found that a lot of people struggle with this very thought. Many of them seem to understand the concept of obedience, but their heart is simply not in it. Thus, the “heart” is the problem.

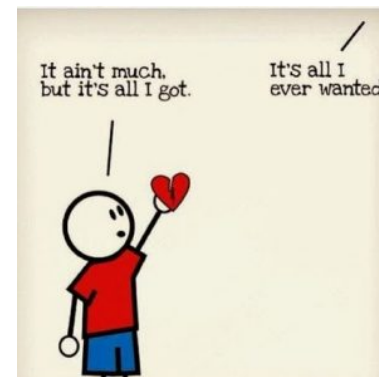
I believe the answer to this dilemma is devotion. A husband may claim to love his wife, and may even do things for her, but if he is not devoted to her, he will likely do those things (if he does them at all) out of grumbling obligation. Whereas if he ardently respects, admires and cherishes her, he will greatly desire to do anything for her and more. The same is true in regard to our relationship with the Lord. God wants us to do His will because we want to not merely because we have to (Jn. 4:23-24). Through

devotion do we realize that His commandments are not burdensome (1 Jn. 5:3). He said, “*If you love Me, keep My commandments*” (Jn. 14:15). Do I?

Rend Your Heart

By Tim Dooley

The prophet Joel called the people of Judah to repentance. He pleaded with them saying, “*Now, therefore,*” says the LORD, “*Turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning. So rend your heart, and not your garments; Return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness; And He relents from doing harm*” (Joel 2:12–13). In much the same way when John the Baptist saw the Sadducees and the Pharisees coming to be baptized, he calls for them to not just make a display of their remorse but to have a true change of heart. He said to them, “*Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance*” (Matthew 3:7–8).



God will mend our heart if we choose to change it.

Many times, even today, men say they are sorry, one may come forward during an invitation song and ask for forgiveness and prayers, but then no real change is made. It may be that one is just sorry they got caught or is seeking to be released from the guilt and consequences of his or her actions. But God wants a true change of heart and life. He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness.