

HEART



When the term “heart” is used in the Bible, it usually means seeking or serving God with our whole heart, or with our whole desire. It is, in essence, seeking God with our entire inner being, with every part of our inner man that is capable of seeking Him.

But when we seek God with all that is within us, not only will we begin to see our inner man aligned with Godly desires, we will also begin to see our outer man (our mortal body) with a new found ability to conform to the changes taking place within our inner man. “...For just as you offered the parts of yourselves as slaves to moral impurity, and to greater and greater lawlessness, so now offer them as slaves to righteousness, which results in sanctification.” (Romans 6:19 HCSB)

For more about the new life available to those who seek God diligently and with their whole heart, read Ephesians 4:20-32 (NKJV), all about “putting off” the old person and his former conduct and “putting on” the new person and his new conduct. “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, behold, all things have become new.” (2 Corinthians 5:17 NKJV)

God wants to change us – for the better- now and for eternity.



For personal or group study time/discussion:

1. What insights did you find as you read Ephesians 4:20-32? How could this be applied to this topic?

2. For your personal study, the following Scripture references deal with the heart and the regenerate's response:

Believe with: Romans 10:10

Keep with all diligence: Proverbs 4:23

Love God with all: Matthew 22:37

Serve God with all: Deuteronomy 26:16

Walk before God with all: Proverbs 3:5

Do God's will from: Ephesians 6:6

3. When it comes to the word “seek”, see how these verses apply.

True wisdom: Proverbs 2:4

Peace: 1 Peter 3:11 (Note: the Amplified Bible states to seek it eagerly; do not merely desire peaceful relations with your fellowmen, and with yourself, but pursue, go after them)

Can you think of any others or find any to add to this? Make note below.

4. If you have a concordance or a topical concordance, see if you can find any Scripture references that would pertain to this topic when it comes to the word “desire.” Write your references and insights below.

5. How has the Lord spoke to you personally as you went through this study? Will any of these require action on your part?