

Disciplined Disciples

Northwest Church of Christ: Young Adults

Winter Quarter: 2014-2015

Topic: Learn to NOT follow their heart



Important Scriptures

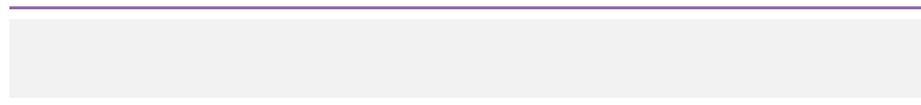
- **Genesis 6:5-** The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
- **Jeremiah 17:9-10-** The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it? 10 "I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, [2] to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds."
- **Mark 7:21-22-** For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, 22 coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness.
- **Proverbs 4:23-** Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

What is the worst piece of advice you have ever been given? We live in a world that cries out to anyone that will listen to them, "Follow your heart." Is this message consistent with what the scriptures teach? Let us examine together.

Heart- the "inner man, feelings, will, intellect"

#1. The worlds view of the heart.

- a. You need to just follow it.- What does this mean?
 - My high school English teacher begged me to follow my heart all throughout life.
- b. Article written by Allyson Dryja spoke of what it means to follow your heart:
 - Having awe-inspiring moments
 - Abandoning your rational mind
 - Ignoring what anyone else thinks
 - Doing what you know is right for you.
- c. Often times the world can depict the idea of following your heart as something that takes courage, and is to be admired.
 - After all, you have decided to allow your feelings to guide you. Not everyone is "that brave"



#2. The true nature of the heart.

a. Genesis 6:5

- During the time that God was so displeased with His creation that He decided to destroy it. The heart was at the root of the problem.

b. We typically like to believe that if we dig deep enough into somebody's heart, we will find the good. However, the scriptures teach us that God does search the heart. His findings are different than we often predict.

- Jeremiah 17:9-10

c. Jesus has some powerful words for us regarding the heart:

- Mark 7:21-22

#3. How a disciplined disciple handles their heart.

1. They allow God to re-make their heart.

- a. Psalm 51- David famously wrote, "create in me a clean heart"
- b. Ezekiel 36:25-26- tells us of the power God has to "give us a new heart" – When we are willing to lay down our idols.

2. They protect it.

- a. Proverbs 4:23- keep your heart with all vigilance..
- b. We protect it by saving it from itself. (eating too much candy at grandma's...) We have to learn to say no to our strong desires, our feelings, our inner man.
- c. By realizing things, places, events to avoid.

3. They feed it.

- a. Proverbs 23:26- My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes observe [6] my ways.
- b. Psalm 119:11- I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.



Discussing the Word

1. When is the last time that you studied with someone outside of the church?
2. Why do you believe it is hard to bring Jesus up in conversation?
3. What is one way you like to proclaim the message of Christ?
4. How should a Christian's social media reflect our evangelistic nature?



