

Memory Verse:

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.” – Matthew 5:8

Big Idea:

It is the pure in heart that will see God in eternity and it is the pure in heart that will see God now. “Pure in heart” means that we are free from corrupt desires. It means that we crave God and not the junk of this fallen world. God shows Himself to those who crave Him and give their affections to Him and Him alone.

The only way we can ever have a pure heart is to invite Jesus to reside, rule, and reign inside our hearts. He alone is the essence of purity and holiness. So, there’s no hope for a pure heart without God. But once we are filled with the grace of Jesus Christ, we are given the ability and the responsibility to actively pursue this progressive work of developing a pure heart. How do we do this? We incorporate the God-given tools of repentance, Bible study, prayer, fasting, and fellowship with other passionate Christ followers.

The result of our pursuing of a pure heart before God is a happiness in God that will overwhelm us. There is no one like our God and to see His face is unmatched!

Scripture and Discussion Questions: *Read the Bible passage(s) and discuss the questions.*

1. **Psalms 51:16-17** – How does it make you feel when someone you love with all your heart won’t love you back? What does God really want from you?
2. **Philippians 4:8** – Why are what we think about, look at, and listen to so important? What things are you allowing into your life that might be corrupting your heart? How is it affecting you? Discuss ways to help ensure you get the good stuff in and keep the bad stuff out.
3. **Romans 12:2** – How does reading God’s Word purify your heart? Discuss some passages that have been used by God to purify your heart.
4. **1 Thessalonians 5:17** – Discuss how you can live a lifestyle of prayer. How can constantly communing with God change your life? How will this change your affections and purify your heart?
5. Discuss instances where you have seen God – His face, His power, His miracles, His healing, His comfort, etc...

Kids Corner:

Get a pair of sunglasses. Have your child(ren) look through the clean sunglasses and tell you what they see. Now smear a small amount of ketchup or dirty water onto the glasses (this represents a little worldly junk). Have them look through the glasses and explain what they see. Finally, completely cover the glasses (representing ongoing exposure to sin) and ask them to tell you what they see. Explain how we must be careful because this can also happen to our hearts, and how we can clean off the distorting messes through prayer, confession, repentance, and asking God for His help.

More Line: Study every passage in the Psalms that talks about the heart.

Prayer Time:

Have a discussion with God about what you have just studied. If necessary, repent. Praise Him for His grace and mercy. Ask the Holy Spirit for guidance and wisdom in order to make this Biblical precept real in your life. He loves you and He can do it.