

THE GROUND OF YOUR HEART

1. My Audience of One- Pleasing the Father is first in my life, it's my reason for living.Col.3:1-4...*Set your affection on things above, not on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ...*
2. Number Your Days-Ps.90:12-*So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our **hearts to wisdom**.* Ps.39:4-5-*make me to know the measure of my days...* James4:14-*For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time then vanishes away.* If we see our life in the light of how short it is in the span of eternity, we will be able to make the important things important. We have been given a row in His vineyard to work and we need to tend to that row and not worry about the row of another. In a few short years we will be with the Father face to face-this revelation makes **our heart come alive**. We view everything differently & can live in the light of his presence.
3. The Inward Man-is how God speaks to you. We want to be sensitive to His leading and able to hear Him when He speaks. Matt.13:13-17 tells us a **calloused heart** can't hear or see. I Cor. 6:19-20-...*your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost..and ye are not your own..glorify God in your body, and in your Spirit, which are Gods.* Acts 27:9-44-Pauls shipwreck is an example of Paul's ability to perceive with the *inward man*, that ability came as a result of him reckoning that he was not his own but belonged to God.
4. Protect Your Heart-Parable of the Sower-Mark 4 teaches us the *mystery of the kingdom*. How to produce fruit-abundant life on the inside of you. *Kingdom living grows from the inside out; not the outside in.* The ground is your heart, the seed is the Word. Proverbs 4:23-*Keep thy **heart** with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.* It is my responsibility to protect my heart. The key to protecting your heart is a revelation every day of Ps. 90:12-*numbering your days.*

Man takes seed of the Word of God and plants it into the ground of his heart. The Word of God may seem small or insignificant when compared with a problem you may be facing *but it is incorruptible and will always work when planted in the good ground of your heart!*

5. A Heart For God-the mystery of the kingdom-crop failure is not the fault

of the Seed (God's Word is incorruptible-1Peter 1:23).

John 15:7-*if you abide in me and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you.* Are God's Words abiding or **living in your heart**? It is our job to sow the seed of God's Word in the good ground of our heart so that we bear fruit.

Some of the things we do from the heart are: love, give, forgive, receive direction, believe and walk by faith. So it is important that we have a **heart for God**, our very life could depend on it.

6. Wayside Ground-Mark 4:15, Matt 13:19-is a heart that is filled with **indifference**, or lack of understanding so it does not produce.

***Remember: Satan is always coming to steal the seed from your heart. To do this he is always bringing something else to deposit there.**

7. Stony Ground-Mark 4:16-17- is a heart that has no root or depth so it endures only for a while but when **affliction** or **persecution** comes it takes **offense** and does not rely on the Word so it does not produce.

8. Thorny Ground-Mark 4:18-19-a heart that is so taken with the **cares of this world (worry)** 1Peter 5:7 , **the deceitfulness of riches (love of money)**, and **the lust for other things (any desire that supercedes the desire for God in your life)** Heb 12:1-3, that it chokes out the Word and will not allow it to produce.

2 Chron. 16:9-*For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew Himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him (one that relies on Him).*

****Every Word from God carries inherent power within it sufficient to bring it to pass, it just has to stay in your heart long enough for you to believe it; but indifference, affliction, persecution, offense, worry, love of money, & lust of other things(tools of the devil-John 10:10) are coming to steal the word out of your heart so don't give heed to them. Instead rely on the Word of God and allow it to produce.***

9. Living In Your Heart-living for God with all your heart-Pleasing God is of first importance in your life. Duet.6:1-7 tells us that *loving Him with all of your heart, soul, and might and serving him will cause it to be*

well with you and increase mightily. Duet.11:13-15 shows us that keeping *our hearts* for God will cause us to bear fruit. In Mark 12:28-34 Jesus tells us that a heart kept unto God, loving Him with heart & soul and also loving our neighbor is the very essence of kingdom living. Be quick to forgive, repent and **Believe**.

10. Good Ground-Mark 4:20, Matt.13:23- is a heart that hears the Word, understands and believes the Word and does not allow wayside, stony or thorny beliefs to get into his heart (2Cor.10:5-*bringing captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ*) so he bears fruit.

John 15:7 speaks of bearing fruit-*If you abide in me, and my Words abide in you,*(in your heart) (this will put you in a place of fruitfulness), *ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.* (getting your prayers answered is bearing fruit). *A revelation of *numbering your days will provide the grace enablement to do this!*

GROUND OF YOUR HEART

I'm too close to heaven to talk this way! Are you?

Ps.39:4-5 Show me my life's end...it is a mere hand's breadth
James 4:14- Our life is but a vapor or puff of steam.

Ps 90:12 *Teach me to number my days that I might apply my heart to wisdom...*

This is a revelation- **knowing** that we will see our Father face to face in a very short time and that **revelation** makes our hearts *Alive*.

It allows us to make the main thing the main thing, and not live in the pettiness of life.

The change in *the view or focus is everything! My inward man has gained dominance and my time has become valuable for Him.*

When you get this revelation--it will allow God's grace access into your life, and that grace will give you ability to deal with the things of life--not in the flesh--but out of a heart full of Him.

Col. 3:2-3-Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with God, in Christ.

I am dead and my life is hidden with Christ! I belong to Him.

Acts 27-10-44-Tells us of the story of Paul's shipwreck and how he reckoned himself to belong to God. (verse 23)

Reckoning ourselves to belong to God is **our decision**.

I Cor. 6:19-20 says-My body is the temple of the Holy Ghost, which is in me, and I am not my own. Therefore, glorify God in my body and in my spirit, which are Gods.

****Oh, that we may say as Paul did in a situation that to the natural eye appeared hopeless-Acts 27:25-Be of good cheer: for I believe God that it shall be even as it was told me. (This is humility-this is saying what God**

says when all circumstances point to the contrary)-This should be our response to His Word as we reckon ourselves to belong to Him.

Faith Works in the Heart!-This is so important!

Matt. 13:10-17 The mystery of the kingdom – kingdom living-abundant life on the inside of you-in the **heart**.

Though seeing they do not see, though hearing they do not understand, for this people **their heart has become calloused**, they hardly hear with their ears-they have closed their eyes, otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and turn and I will heal them, but blessed are your eyes because they see and your ears because they hear.

The instrument we perceive from is the heart, and if we allow it to become calloused, we won't be able to perceive the things of God. It's not that we don't love God or people, we need the callousness removed from our hearts so the veil will be lifted and we can see the things of God. If we allow the heart to remain calloused, we will be deceived.

Parable of the Sower:

Mark4- Kingdom living is about living a life of Fruitfulness

The seed = the word

The ground = the heart

It is our job to protect the ground (of our heart) so we can plant the incorruptible seed (of God's word) in it and it be fruitful.

Wayside, Stony, and Thorny ground do not bear fruit.

1. Wayside ground-**indifference**- hearing the word and being indifferent to it. We don't highly esteem it or give it the place in our lives it deserves.
2. Stony ground-affliction or persecution comes and we are **offended** and we quit or give up because of offense- it is allowing circumstances or people in life to offend us (for whatever reason) and we become bitter and that bitterness affects our hearts.
3. Thorny ground- is when the cares of this world, the worries of life, the deceitfulness of riches, the lust or the desire for other things above what God says, chokes the word in our lives and affects our heart.

4. Good ground- it hears and **receives** the word with gladness and brings forth a harvest-it sees the fruitfulness of **answered prayer**. It is a heart protected against wayside, stony and thorny ground.

*****Indifference, affliction, persecution, offense, cares, worries, lust for money or other things all have their origin with Satan and are coming against us to steal the Word from our hearts-To make us quit or give up-We must not receive them, but instead we must receive what the Word says in our hearts by faith; and we will be as James 1:4 says, "perfect, complete, lacking nothing."***

Prov. 4:23-Keep thy heart with all diligence for out of it flow the issues of life.

*****A key in keeping or protecting your HEART is a revelation of:
Psalm 90:12-Teach me to number my days, that I might apply my heart to wisdom.**

Kingdom living is fruitfulness or growth that goes beyond the borders of our own life and provides shelter or lodging for others.-This should be the desire of our hearts.