

EASTER AT *Community* BIBLE CHURCH

WHOLE HEART

Community Bible Church

Sermon Discussion Questions: **Apr 16, 2023**

Pastor Ed Newton

Title: ALL IN

Text: *"With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!"* (Psalm 119:10)

Target: A "Whole-Heart" surrendered to Jesus is more than a figurative mindset, it's a daily reset.

Icebreaker: What is your attitude toward honking your horn at other drivers in traffic?

Read Luke 9:23-27 as a group.

Briefly cover each point and move to the "Points of Reflection" questions below. Feel free to revisit previous questions if you find it beneficial.

- I. **UN-DIVIDED Heart:** *"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."* (Luke 9:23)
 - A. **New Heart:** *"I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you."* (Ezekiel 36:26)
 - B. **With All Your Heart:** *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."* (Deuteronomy 6:5)
 - C. **Take it To Heart:** *"I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."* (Psalm 119:11)

Question #1: *Why do you think it can be so difficult to deny yourself and follow Jesus with an Un-Divided Heart in our modern society? In what ways have you had to deny yourself since becoming a follower of Jesus?*

- II. **UN-RESERVED Heart:** *"For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it."* (Luke 9:24)
 - A. **Don't Harden your Heart:** *"do not harden your hearts."* (Psalm 95:8)
 - B. **Tender Heart:** *"because your heart was tender and you humbled yourself before God when you heard his words"* (2 Chronicles 34:27)
 - C. **Open your Heart:** turn to the Lord with an open heart. (2 Cor. 3:16)

Question #2: Pastor Ed explained how God desires His people to have an Un-Reserved Heart that is tender and open to Him. *What are the traits of a hardened heart in our life & what practices develop a tender heart inside us?*

- III. **UN-WORLDFLY Heart:** *“For what does it profit a man if he gains the world and loses or forfeits himself?”* (Luke 9:25)
- A. **Guard your Heart:** *“Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.”* (Proverbs 4:23)
 - B. **Trust not your Heart:** *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.”* (Proverbs 3:5)
 - C. **Test My Heart:** *“test my heart toward you.”* (Jeremiah 12:3)

Question #3: Read Hebrews 11:24-27. Moses was faced with a decision to either enjoy the greatest pleasures the world could offer or pursue God’s will and calling for his life. *What worldly things have you found to be the most tempting in your life? How can you guard your heart against being influenced by these things?*

- IV. **UN-ASHAMED Heart:** *“For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.”* (Luke 9:26)
- A. **Heart of Worship:** *“Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.”* (1 Chronicles 16:10)
 - B. **Meditation of my Heart:** *“Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and Redeemer.”* (Psalm 19:14)
 - C. **Set your Heart:** *“For Ezra had set his heart to study the law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel.”* (Ezra 7:10)
 - D. **Work with All your Heart:** *“work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,”* (Colossians 3:23)

Question #4: *What do you think brings someone from their early faith to a matured, Un-Ashamed Heart for Jesus? How would you encourage someone in the early stages of this road to maturity?*

Points of Reflection: Pastor Ed has covered some of the most challenging aspects of having an “All-In” heart fully devoted to Jesus.

1. *Which moments of this sermon series have been the most impactful to you?*
2. *How has God moved your heart to action through them?*
3. *What will you do in response to God’s prompting?*

- V. **UN-STOPPABLE Heart:** *“But I tell you truly, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God.”* (Luke 9:27)
- A. **Take Heart:** *“In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”* (John 16:33)
 - B. **Upright in Heart:** *“My shield is with God, who saves the upright in heart.”* (Psalm 7:10)
 - C. **Lion’s Heart:** *“Whose heart is like the heart of a Lion”* (2 Samuel 17:10)

Takeaway: Do not lose heart, for there is a God who knows your heart and who holds your heart.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.” (Matthew 5:8) *“For where your treasure is there will your heart be also.”* (Matthew 6:21)

Question #5: *Have you ever walked through a season of life where you battled with confidence and trust in God? Looking back, how was God working to bring you through that time in your life? How does this reflection strengthen your faith for future trials?*

Question #6: Proverbs 4:23 says, "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it." *Do you believe a Christian's heart can revert to old ways or become callous later in their Christian life? In what ways can we guard our hearts from falling back into the previous patterns we've grown out of?*