

# Giving Your Heart To God

## Lesson 1: Where Is Your Heart?



Discovering God's Word

Bible Study Series

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Learn the importance of your heart and evaluate whether it has been given to God

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Discovering God's Word Bible Study Series

**Study Number:** DGW32

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**My plea:** It is my hope and prayer that you are searching for the truth that is contained in God's word, the Bible. My desire is to help you understand and obey these truths God has revealed in the pages of His word. It is to that end that I write this material. Please observe all of the Scripture references and evaluate whether the conclusions I have drawn are in harmony with God's word. If they are, I ask that you make honest application of those truths to your life and obey God's instructions.

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# Where Is Your Heart?

Where is your heart? This is probably the most important question you can ever consider! It is a question that has to do with your allegiance. Who or what have you pledged your allegiance to?

Look at what Jesus taught in Matthew 6:19-21: “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

In these two lessons, it is my desire to help you understand the importance of your heart – and the importance of giving your heart to God. Furthermore, I hope to provide useful steps that you can take in order to make sure that you have given your heart *entirely* to God!

In this first lesson, the goal will be to focus on the significance of the question, “Where is your heart?” Then, we will consider the only two options which are identified in the Scriptures and you will find your heart in one of these two places. Finally, we will spend some time honestly evaluating where our hearts are so that we can be prepared to take the appropriate action! After we establish where our hearts are (in lesson 1), we will use the second lesson in this study to give our hearts to God.

## *The Importance Of The Question*

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Why is the question, “Where is your heart?” so important? Why does it have such a significant impact on the way in which you live your life and whether or not you are pleasing to God? Let’s evaluate.

### **What is the Bible “heart”?**

Understanding how the Bible predominantly uses the term “heart” will help us appreciate the significance of where our hearts are. We tend to think of the heart as the blood pump for the body. When we think of it in this way, our question does not make any sense to us! We would think, “My heart is right where it’s always been – near the center of my chest!”

However, when the Bible uses the term “heart” it usually means something quite different than this. *Nelson’s Illustrated Bible Dictionary* says that the Bible “heart” is: “the inner self that thinks, feels, and decides. In the Bible the word heart has a much broader meaning than it does to the modern mind. The heart is that which is central to man. Nearly all the references to the heart in the Bible refer to some aspect of human personality” (page 466) [Lockyer, Herbert Sr., et al. *Nelson’s Illustrated Bible Dictionary*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, Inc., 1986. Print].

Some Bible passages will help you to see this to be true. Examine each one of these passages closely and notice the specific things that are said to be functions of the “heart.”

(1) John 16:6: “But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.” As Jesus was preparing His disciples for His departure from the earth (saying that He was going to the Father), He says that sorrow filled their hearts. Now, this cannot be literally true. The physical heart is an organ filled with blood to pump into other parts of the body. It is not filled with any kind of emotion! However, whatever the “heart” is (according to the Bible), it is something which can be filled with sorrow.

(2) Acts 11:23: “When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord.” When individuals in areas well beyond Jerusalem heard the word of God, many turned to the Lord. Then, when the church in Jerusalem heard about their obedience, they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. Whenever, he arrived and saw those who had received the grace of God, he encouraged them to continue to follow the Lord with “purpose of heart.” Now, the physical heart (the blood pump) only works to sustain our physical lives. It cannot do anything to influence our spiritual lives and service to God! However, the Bible here speaks of purposing our hearts to follow the ways of the Lord!

(3) Colossians 3:15: “And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.” As Paul wrote to the Christians in the ancient city of Colossae, he told them to let the peace that comes from God to rule in their hearts. In Philippians 4:6-7, this peace is described as surpassing all understanding. Furthermore, we are told that it will guard our “hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Certainly, the physical blood pump of the body is not guarded by the peace of God! However, the Bible “heart” can be guarded by this peace which surpasses all understanding – and it can be given complete rule in our hearts!

(4) 1 Peter 1:22: “Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart.” Here is a God-given commandment concerning how we must use our hearts. We must have pure hearts to use to love our brethren fervently. Yet, as we noted earlier regarding sorrow, our physical blood pumps are not capable of any kind of emotions. Though our hearts are often used in our culture to depict the idea of love, our physical hearts actually are incapable of such an emotion or decision! However, God commands us to use our hearts for the purpose of loving our brethren fervently. Is He commanding something we cannot obey? Certainly not! The Bible’s use of the term “heart” makes us fully capable to use our hearts in this way.

From these (and many other passages) we can plainly see that the Bible frequently does not use the word “heart” to identify functions of the physical organ located in our chests. Instead, as demonstrated in the quote from *Nelson’s Illustrated Bible Dictionary*, the Bible refers to the various functions of the mind – including our thoughts, our emotional responses, our decisions, etc.

Hebrews 4:12 should help to make this clear. The passage states: “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” Notice that God’s word is a discerner of the “thoughts and intents of the heart.” So, the Bible “heart” is applied to the same part of man which can think and have intentions. Obviously, this is a reference to our minds – as each of the previous examples have also demonstrated.

So, having established this truth, we need to revisit the question we are considering in this lesson: “Where is your heart?” It should now be clear that we are searching for our allegiances. We want to know where our thoughts and intentions are focused.

## **Everything you are stems from the heart**

Now, why does it even matter where our hearts are? Isn’t that our own personal business? The fact of the matter is that where your heart is *does* matter – because of its impact on everything that you do in your life! You see, if your heart is not in the right place, your life will not be pleasing to God. However, if your heart is in the right place, you will dedicate your life to please God!

Look closely at Matthew 6:19-21 again: “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Specifically, focus on verse 21. Jesus says that when you locate your treasure, you will have located your heart. This is because your treasure (the result of the

things you have done) have been determined internally!

Other passages also identify the connection between our hearts and our actions. Consider the teachings of each one of these passages.

(1) Proverbs 4:23: “Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.” While this passage is focused on the importance of keeping your heart (which we’ll focus on in lesson 2), it demonstrates the connection between your “heart” and all of the “issues of life.” Put another way, the NIV (2011) says, “Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.” So, there is no “issue of life” that is unconnected with the location of your “heart”!

(2) Proverbs 23:7: “For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. ‘Eat and drink!’ he says to you, But his heart is not with you.” The connection between your heart and your actions could not be more clear than it is stated in this passage! Your life (i.e. your decisions, actions, words, emotions, etc.) are going to reflect the things that are in your heart (for the good or for the bad).

(3) Matthew 15:19: “For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.” Notice the kinds of wicked things which are brought about by the “heart.” A focus on evil things will produce evil thoughts. A focus on things like greed, envy, hatred, and lust will produce murders, adulteries, fornications, false witnessing, and blasphemies. Certainly, the things mentioned in this passage just scratch the surface. However, it does provide wonderful insight into the types of activity that is produced because of a heart that is not focused on God!

(4) Romans 8:5-8: “For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.” Notice that those who are spiritually minded (i.e. have hearts set on spiritual things) live according

to God’s ways. However, those who are carnally minded (i.e. have hearts set on physical things) live according to their own fleshly desires and refuse to submit themselves to God’s ways!

The Scriptures could not be any clearer about this principle truth – that our hearts are intimately connected with the decisions that we make and the ways in which we will live our lives. However, in addition to *stating* the truth that our hearts determine our actions, the Bible also *demonstrates* this truth – in positive and negative ways. Consider this with me briefly.

Consider each of the following negative examples to see the connection between the heart and actions. I would encourage you to read each one of the passages listed with a specific focus on this point. (1) Cain killed his brother Abel because of the envy that was in his heart (Genesis 4; Hebrews 11:4; 1 John 3:10-12). (2) Joseph’s brothers sold him into slavery because of their jealousy (Genesis 37). (3) The Israelites determined not to go into the land of promise initially because they believed the discouraging report 10 of the spies brought back to them (Numbers 13-14). (4) Naaman initially did not dip in the Jordan River so as to be cleansed of his leprosy because he had thought he would be healed another way (2 Kings 5). (5) David’s adultery with Bathsheba stemmed from his lust for her (2 Samuel 11). (6) Ananias and Sapphira lied to God because of their determination to deceive and keep back part of their profit for themselves (Acts 5). (7) Jesus Christ was crucified because of the envy of the Jews (Matthew 27).

Now, consider each of the following positive examples to see the connection between the heart and actions. Again, I would encourage you to read each one of the passages listed with a specific focus on this point. (1) Joseph did not commit adultery with Potiphar’s wife because he had determined not to sin against God (Genesis 39). (2) King Josiah tried to restore many things in Judah to be pleasing to God because his heart was tender and he humbled himself before the Lord (2 Kings 22-23). (3) Paul’s faithful life of preaching and service for the Lord stemmed from his dedication to give himself as a living sacrifice to God (Galatians 2:20). (4) Jesus Christ did

not sin because He had determined to accomplish the Father's purpose (Matthew 4:1-11; John 17:1-5).

So, as you consider all of these passages and examples, it should be entirely clear that where your heart is will greatly impact how you live your life – and whether you will be pleasing to God or not!

## **The connection between your heart and your eternity**

Why are the decisions you make in life significant? Why does it matter whether you choose to obey God or disobey God? Surely it is because of the coming Judgment and eternity!

2 Corinthians 5:10 says, “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.” You will stand before Jesus Christ and be judged for how you have lived your life on this earth. Everything you have done while you were on the earth will be judged – including everything that you thought was done in secret (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14).

Then, based on the outcome of your judgment, you will either be rewarded or punished for all of eternity. To those who lived their lives pleasing to God, Jesus will say, “Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world” (Matthew 25:34). However, to those who failed to live their lives pleasing to God, Jesus will say, “Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels” (Matthew 25:41). Then, Matthew 25:46 says that the wicked will “go away into everlasting punishment” (in Hell), but the righteous will go “into eternal life” (in Heaven)!

Think back over the connection between your heart and your actions that we established earlier in this lesson. Now that you recognize that you will be judged by God on the Day of Judgment for how you have lived your life on this earth, you should appreciate the fact that your heart will have a tremendous impact on whether you spend eternity in Heaven or in Hell! Romans 8:6 directly states this to be true: “For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.” Those who are focused on earthly things will participate in sinful

things and will experience spiritual death (separation from God). However, those who are focused on spiritual things will do the things that are pleasing to God and will experience spiritual life (and peace)!

Realizing this, consider what Jesus taught in Matthew 6:19-21 again: “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Consider the long-term value in the things we choose to pursue and focus on.

Jesus says that if our hearts are focused on earthly things and accumulating earthly treasures, all of our efforts and focus will be worthless! They simply will not benefit us beyond this earthly life. All that we will have focused on and worked for will be taken away from us. Specifically, in Jesus' statement, Jesus said that your earthly treasures can be stolen from you and can be destroyed – even during your own lifetime. However, your earthly treasures will certainly be taken from you when you die (as demonstrated in Luke 12:13-21)!

In contrast, Jesus says that if our hearts are focused on spiritual things (heavenly things) and accumulating spiritual treasures, all of our efforts and focus will be a source of reward for us! These treasures can never be taken from us, rust, or be destroyed. Furthermore, whenever your earthly life is over, you will be “rich toward God” (Luke 12:21) because you will have been diligent to pursue spiritual things!

Therefore, when you stand before the All-Powerful God of this universe on Judgment Day, this question of “Where is your heart?” will have had a tremendous impact on where you will be spending your eternity – either in Heaven or in Hell! However, on that Day of Judgment, it will be too late to change your focus and positively impact your eternal destiny! Instead, you must carefully evaluate your life and your focus *now* – so that you will be prepared to stand before God on the Day of Judgment and so that you will not be found to be spiritually bankrupt on that Day!

Remember, as you answer the question, “Where is your heart?” that God knows exactly where your heart is. Though you may be successful in deceiving others (and may even deceive yourself), you will never fool God! Acts 15:8 informs us that God “knows the heart” of man! What will God know about your heart on the Day of Judgment?

## ***Two Options***

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Now that you recognize the importance of the question, “Where is your heart?,” let’s really focus on determining the answer to this question. But, how can you possibly tell where your heart is?

### **There are only two options**

Look again at the passage in Matthew 6:19-21: “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

There are only two options regarding where your heart will be – and you must make a choice! Your heart will either be on earthly things or it will be on spiritual things! Romans 8:5-8 also made it perfectly clear that you will either be spiritually minded or carnally minded. These are your only two options. You will simply need to make an informed decision to focus in one of these two areas. In the Old Testament story of Joshua, he told the people, “choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve.” Then, he said, “But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord” (Joshua 24:15)!

You cannot remain “undecided” throughout your life. In fact, to choose to be “undecided” is a choice to pursue the things of this earth because you will have competing allegiances in your heart. Consider what Jesus taught in Matthew 6:22-24 about the need for a single focus and a single Master during your life: “The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is

in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.”

It is my understanding that the reference in this passage to a “good” eye is to an eye that has proper vision and a single focus – while the eye that is “bad” has “double vision.” So, the emphasis appears to be on the need for a single focus throughout the course of your lifetime! This is further emphasized, then, in verse 24, when Jesus says that it is impossible to effectively serve two different masters. Instead, it is necessary to have a single focus during your life and dedicate yourself entirely to God!

Consider an example in Revelation 3 concerning some Christians who had failed to have this single focus in serving God in their lives. When Jesus spoke of the church of the Laodiceans, He spoke of a group that was “lukewarm.” In verses 15-16, He said, “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.” Therefore, this was a group of individuals who had devoted some of their lives to the Lord; but, who had not made a complete dedication to God. Notice that Jesus said He would vomit them out of His mouth – and calls upon them to repent in verse 19!

So, you must choose today! You must choose where you will put your heart! And, you only have two options. Furthermore, you simply cannot serve two masters. So, you must make a choice – and you must choose wisely! In Matthew 16:26, Jesus asked, “For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?” Understand that nothing and no one is more valuable than your soul – and you must not exchange your soul for anything or anyone!

### **On heavenly things**

The first option of where you can set your heart is on heavenly things. Setting your heart on heavenly things would involve seeking to glorify

God in all things and being obedient to His instructions. Seeking heavenly things puts God and doing His will absolutely first in your life – all of the time!

What results from a heart that is set on heavenly things? First, your earthly life will be one of sacrifice and devotion to God – doing what He desires rather than seeking to gratify your own earthly desires. Galatians 2:20 records Paul's dedication as he set his heart on heavenly things: "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." Second, if your heart is set on heavenly things, you will be eternally rewarded when this life is over. Your spiritual "treasures" will never be taken away if you are faithful to God (see Matthew 6:20). Therefore, you will receive an eternal home with God in Heaven (as described in Revelation 21-22:5).

## On earthly things

The second option of where you can set your heart is on earthly things. As we discuss this, please remember that what we are talking about is setting your heart on the pursuit of these things (as not all of the things I will mention are sinful in and of themselves). Instead, we are talking about making these things the focus of your life and elevating these things above God and your pursuit of heavenly things!

So, setting your heart on earthly things could involve seeking earthly treasures (i.e. money, possessions – houses, cars, boats, electronics, etc.). It could involve seeking earthly pleasures (i.e. entertainment, recreation, sex, drugs, alcohol, food, sports, hobbies, etc.). It could involve seeking your own personal desires or interests – whatever those desires and interests are. It could involve seeking relationships with others (i.e. with parents, with a boyfriend/girlfriend, with a spouse, with children, with friends, with co-workers, etc.). It could involve seeking earthly power or standing (i.e. promotions, membership into "elite" social clubs/groups, recognitions, achievements, etc.). It could involve seeking anything that is on (or about) this earth! Anything and anyone on this earth could become an

idol in your life that steals your focus away from God and from heavenly things!

What results from a heart that is set on earthly things? First, your earthly life will receive its good things. This means that as you are focused on fulfilling the desires of your own flesh, you will receive whatever good will come to you – while you are living on this earth. This was true about the rich man in Luke 16:19-31. Jesus said that he received his good things while he lived on the earth. Second, when this life is over, you will be eternally punished. These physical "treasures" will not be of any spiritual benefit to you – as they will not survive this earth. They will be taken from you at death (if not before). This can also be seen regarding the rich man in Luke 16. In verse 25, he was shown the contrast between himself and Lazarus (a beggar who had lived at the same time): "Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented." Clearly, the physical things he had enjoyed on earth were of no benefit to him (as was the case in Luke 12:13-21 regarding another rich man). Likewise, if your heart is set on earthly things, you will be sentenced to eternal destruction in Hell fire (see Revelation 21:8) – and none of your earthly treasures will be of any benefit to you!

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## How Can You Tell?

There is an obvious and definite need to determine where your heart is – prior to your death (so that you can make any changes that need to be made before it is too late)! But, how can you tell where your heart is? Jesus told us exactly how we can tell in Matthew 6:21: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Now, as you study through this section, please do not misunderstand my point. I am not saying that you cannot enjoy any earthly things. If God blesses us physically, it is not wrong to enjoy those blessings *in right/lawful ways*. As Solomon wrote the book of Ecclesiastes and concluded that it is vanity to pursue after earthly things (concluding that our true purpose in life is to fear God and keep



His commandments), He also said, “Nothing is better for a man than that he should eat and drink, and that his soul should enjoy good in his labor. This also, I saw, was from the hand of God” (Ecclesiastes 2:24). Enjoying earthly things has its right and proper place. But, we must keep it in its proper place and refuse to allow it to become something God never desired it to be!

## The problem of self-deception

One of the things which complicate the matter of determining where your heart is – is the problem of self-deception. The Scriptures warn about this problem – as it is not an uncommon problem! Certainly, there are many individuals who justify their actions as “enjoying God’s blessings” when they have actually allowed physical things to become idols in their lives. So, you must be careful to observe and heed the warnings about self-deception. Consider the following passages.

(1) Galatians 6:7: “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.” Whenever we act as if our actions and decisions have no consequences, we have deceived ourselves. We may deceive ourselves (or may be deceived by others) so as to believe that what we do and the decisions we make do not affect our eternal homes. Yet, God promises that we will each reap according to what we sow on this earth!

(2) James 1:22: “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.” Whenever we hear God’s word but do not take the appropriate actions, we are guilty of deceiving ourselves. We may even begin to believe that we are living right because we know the right things; but, we may be failing to live in a way that is pleasing to God!

(3) James 1:26: “If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one’s religion is useless.” Whenever we think we are religious but do not do the things He has required of us, we have deceived ourselves. Again, we may claim to be religious and honor Jesus as Lord of our lives; but, we may actually be living in ways that deny Him or that only please Him *some* of the time!

While these passages help us understand some things about self-deception, we can just as easily deceive ourselves about where our allegiances are! We may attempt to justify our actions by saying, “I am just enjoying the things of this life” or “I have earthly responsibilities” or “I am not like ‘X.’” However, we must be willing to honestly examine ourselves to see whether our hearts are truly set on heavenly things or on earthly things! 2 Corinthians 13:5 says, “Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? — unless indeed you are disqualified.”

## Some tests

Let’s take a few moments for a period of self-evaluation. Let’s ask some questions to help determine the answer to the question, “Where is your heart really at?” Please keep in mind that only honest answers will be helpful to you. It will do you no eternal good to lie to yourself or attempt to justify yourself!

(1) Who/what is the most important thing in your life? Who/what occupies first place in your heart? Is it your job, family, friends, a hobby, or other earthly things? Or, is it God and doing His will?

(2) What do you spend your time on? If you categorized every minute you have spent during the course of the past month/year, what would that show about your priorities/allegiances? Is it family, friends, hobbies, entertainment, recreation, unnecessary secular work, or some other earthly endeavor? Or, is it God and doing His will?

(3) What do you spend your money on? If you categorized every cent that you spent during the course of the past month/year, what would that show about your priorities/allegiances? Is it a hobby, entertainment, luxuries, recreation, or some other earthly thing? Or, is it God and doing His will?

(4) What do you worry about? What consumes your mind to the point that it makes you anxious (more than just concerned)? Is it your finances, politics, health troubles, death, or some other earthly thing? Or, do you seek God first in your life and cast all your cares on Him (1 Peter 5:7; Philippians 4:6-7; Matthew 6:25-34)?

(5) Who/what do you run to whenever things get tough? Who/what is able to comfort you as you go through difficult times more than anyone/anything else? Is it a friend, a family member, food, sports, entertainment, or some other earthly thing? Or, is God the only one who is able to supply the *ultimate* comfort to you?

(6) What is your greatest dream/aspiration? If you could be anything, what would you be? If you could do anything, what would you do? Would you desire great riches, fame, pleasure, or some other earthly thing? Or, would you aspire to accomplish something for the Lord?

### **Evaluating the results**

Again, let me stress that I do not believe and I am not teaching that we cannot enjoy any earthly things or that we do not have earthly responsibilities (i.e. toward work, family, etc.). However, I am wanting you to evaluate if any of these things have left their proper places! Have they become idols in your life? Have you given them any more significance than God has given them? Have you forgotten/replaced the one true God with one (or more) of these earthly things? Is God being crowded out of your life by any earthly thing? Do you have a heart that is either altogether pursuing an idol or one that has a divided allegiance?

I encourage you to take a moment and reflect back over your answers to the questions that have been asked (the 6 questions in the test above) and use them to help you evaluate where your heart is *really* at! Again, it will not be helpful to you to attempt to justify yourself or to deceive yourself. Instead, honestly evaluate where your treasures are – so that you can identify where your heart is!

## **Conclusion**

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Where is your heart? Does your heart *really* belong to God? Do you care? I hope that you now understand that this question has a tremendous impact on how you will live your life and whether you will spend eternity in Heaven or in Hell.

In our next study, we will attempt to build upon the information that you have gathered during this first lesson, as we will discuss how you can give your heart to God!

## **Study Questions**

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Where do you think your heart is?

### **1. The Importance Of The Question**

What is the Bible “heart”?

What is the connection between your heart and your actions/decisions?

What impact does your heart have on your eternity?

### **2. Two Options**

Are there *really* only two options?

What does it mean to have your heart set on heavenly things?

What does it mean to have your heart set on earthly things?

### **3. How Can You Tell?**

Is it (necessarily) wrong to enjoy earthly things?  
Explain.

What is the problem of self-deception?

Answer the following tests (honestly) to see where  
your heart is *really* at:

1. Who/what is the most important thing in  
your life?

2. What do you spend your time on?

3. What do you spend your money on?

4. What do you worry about?

5. Who/what do you run to whenever things  
get tough?

6. What is your greatest dream/aspiration?

Now, honestly evaluate your answers to see whether  
any earthly thing has left its proper place. List your  
findings.

**\*Where is your heart?**