

Connect Notes - 13 September 2015

BEAUTIFUL ATTITUDES - HUMILITY AND GENTLENESS - PS PHIL PRINGLE

Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it springs the issues of life.

- Proverbs 4:23 (NKJV)

We protect the important things in our lives, our homes our cars and even our lives. But what do we do to protect our hearts? When it says to guard your heart, it means to make a choice about what you do and what you allow in your heart.

In this, we look at Daniel - a fantastic example of a guarded heart. What does it take to distract us from prayer? In Daniel's case not even the threat of death could stop him from praying to God. But he was a captive in his life, a resident in his enemies' land. And despite his surrounds and what was required of him, he preserved the integrity of his spirit and kept it pure.

It's so important to keep our spirit in a pure attitude. Daniel knew the importance of prayer and that it would keep him in a pure spirit. To Daniel this was even more valuable than life itself.

People with a pure heart get insight into their lives, however when your heart is dark, so is your pathway. But God declares that he will give you a pure heart and a way to live. The way to a pure heart is through prayer and reading the word. Daniel rose to be one of the most powerful people in the kingdom because of his excellent spirit.

Daniel 6:3 - Then this Daniel distinguished himself above the governors and satraps, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king gave thought to setting him over the whole realm.

When Leaders measure people, they measure the heart. When we are measured, our future is measured according to our hearts.

Deuteronomy 20:8 - The officers shall speak further to the people, and say, 'What man is there who is fearful and fainthearted? Let him go and return to his house, lest the heart of his brethren faint like his heart.'

Ezekiel 36:26 - I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

God is the master of the heart transplant. A new heart causes us to rise in life, to change our perspectives and rise. He has a new heart for us, and a new future and promise to go with it. You may have been let down, you may have had your faith crash - but you need to move past it and move forward, your future is waiting.

Hebrew 10:35 - Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward.

If you can get one thing right, it's time to switch on your faith. Faith is the source of all good things, and change and hope. Faith is the promise of a new tomorrow.

What are some qualities of a great attitude?

1. Faith is willing, a great attitude is a willing attitude. (Isaiah 1:19)

2. Faith is agreeable, a great attitude is an agreeable attitude.
3. Faith is thankful, it gives thanks in anything and everything.
4. Faith is the key to authentic humility.

Faith is the key to being the humble person you are called to be. Faith is the key to humility. Humble yourselves in the sight of God: the same attitude is required of us. How did humility work out for Jesus?

John 13:1-4 - Jesus washes the Disciples' feet.

When you know where you've come from and when you know where you're going - being humble, being a servant is no big deal. Blessings come upon those who are humble.