Outline – February 27, 2022 Jeremiah 17:9-10; Proverbs 15:13-17 Matthew 15:8-18

The Heart Of Marriage And Relationships

Marriage Requires A Renewed Heart And A Pure Heart

- I. The command to guard your heart (Proverbs 4)
 - A. A heart that is broken
 - B. A heart that is cold
 - C. A heart that is darkened
 - D. A heart that is bitter
 - E. A heart that is hardened
 - 1. Toward people in general
 - 2. Toward family
 - 3. Toward God
 - F. These conditions cause problems in marriage and in relationships
- II. What impacts our heart?
 - A. Our family of origin
 - 1. Parents
 - 2. Siblings
 - B. Our first emotional/relationship experiences
 - 1. First love
 - 2. Fiancé
 - 3. First marriage
 - C. Satan seeks to exploit that pain
 - D. "Painting" over the hurt hiding the root of the problem
 - E. Pretending
 - 1. We celebrate "make believe"
 - 2. Hypocrite pretends to be something they are not
 - F. Focusing only on behavior
 - 1. Not focusing on the heart

III. The problem we face when our heart is not renewed

- A. What is in your heart will come out of your mouth
- B. Eventually your heart goes public
 - 1. "I can't believe I said that"
 - 2. "What was I thinking"
 - 3. "How could you have done that"

IV. What changes the heart? Seven things

- A. Son of God Jesus "Yeshua"
- B. Spirit of God
- C. Word of God
- D. People of God

- E. Serving God
- F. Worship of God
- G. Experiencing God

V. The results of a changed heart

- A. A clean heart
- B. A working heart
 - 1. Creates hope
 - 2. Makes effort
 - 3. Sensitive to doing God's Will
- C. Has new habits
 - Bad habits aren't stopped
 - 2. Bad habits are replaced
- D. Truth moves from heart to head and back
- E. A changed heart faces and heals the pain

VI. How a changed heart changes your marriage

- A. Renewed faith
 - 1. Creates a renewed marriage
 - 2. Our heart is under our dominion
 - 3. Heart creates "want to" wisdom creates "how to"
- B. Brings forgiveness
 - 1. God forgives
 - 2. Satan doesn't
- C. Forgiveness leads to friendship
 - 1. Song of Solomon (6:16)
 - 2. An important question
 - a. Were your parents friends?
 - b. What will your kids say about you?
 - 3. Friendship makes good times twice as good, and bad times half as bad
 - 4. Traits of friendship
 - a. Loyalty
 - b. Faithful
 - c. Devoted
 - d. Believes the best before assuming the worst
 - e. A friend walks in the door when everyone else is walking out
 - f. 70% of all couples want to be friends with their spouse
 - 5. Three types of marriages
 - a. Back to back
 - b. Shoulder to shoulder
 - c. Face to face

- D. Friendship leads to fun
 - 1. What's your "thing"?
 - 2. Creates fun
 - 3. Make time for fun
- E. It renews your family
- F. It strengthens your future
- G. It prepares you for eternity

Your Heart Shapes Your Marriage As Your Heart Is Changed By Messiah