



MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE WEEK 6 – THE PURE IN HEART

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

Psalm 139:23,24; Proverbs 4:23; Ezekiel 36:26-27; Matthew 5:8, 6:21, 24, 22:37; Luke 6:45; James 4:7-10

KEY NOTES

- The heart is the _____ and _____ of our life's _____ and _____.
- A pure heart is one that is free from _____ our relationship with God.
- An impure heart keeps us from _____ God has he _____
- An impure heart keeps us from _____ God as he _____
- An impure heart keeps us from _____

According to James 4:7-10, we maintain a pure heart by:

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DIGGING DEEPER

1. Do you agree the main reason people hate going to church is conviction?
2. Jesus was clear that the purity of our hearts is our greatest challenge to experiencing the kingdom of God today. How have you found this true?
3. **Read James 4:7.** Why is this the first step in maintaining a pure heart? When are the times in your life when this is especially challenging?
4. James 4:7 says we are to resist the devil, intentionally developing a spiritual defense strategy. What are the consequences if we don't?
5. **Read James 4:8.** What are some things we can do to come near to God and experience his nearness? Which do you find easiest? Hardest?
6. James 4:8 also speaks of confronting specific sins that have crept into our hearts. How can we know what those are? Why is this so important?
7. **Read James 4:9.** Is God calling us to be spiritual Sad Sacks or something different? Why is this attitude toward the sin in our hearts so important?
8. **Read James 4:10.** What is the Lord lifting us up from? What is he lifting us up to? Why is humility a prerequisite to this?