

# Keeping Your Heart Pure

**The pure in heart will see God, Matthew 5:8**

**Pastor Phillip Fields May 2024**

# **1 % ARMY**

**Gideons 1 % army Judges 6–8**



# The challenge to keep our HEARTS pure

Luke 4:18–19

- Family baggage
- Wounds we receive from life
- Lies we believe
- Spiritual warfare
- Demonic oppression

# **What is a pure heart?**

**Biblical understanding: Matthew 5:8**

**Pure: clean**

- **Physical: purified by fire or cleansed by pruning**
- **Levitical: forbidden for use**
- **Ethical: free from corrupt desire, including sin and guilt, blameless, innocent**

**The heart: sense of being**

- **The center of all physical and spiritual life**
- **The soul, thoughts, passions, desires, appetite, affections, purposes, endeavors**



# What purifies the heart?

**Holy Spirit speaks truth that brings conviction, when we worship, pray, receive ministry, deep repentance and act in obedience**

**Real life experiences:**

- **Spiritual fire/testing**
- **Pruning**
- **Trials, tribulation**
- **Persecution**
- **Failure**

# **The process of purifying Peter's heart**

**Matthew 16:16 Peter's, divine revelation**

**Matthew 16:23 Peter's heart was not pure**

**He had the wrong motivation, mindset, & mission**

**Mark 14:27–31 Peter promised his loyalty**

**Mark 14:37–38 Peter fell asleep**

**Mark 14:66–27 Peter denied Jesus three times**

**John 21:15–19 Jesus restored Peter**



# **What can we learn from Peter's process?**

**He was in denial about being sifted by Satan Luke 22:31**

**He was convinced that he knew his own heart**

**His heart was full of a lust for power**

**He ignored warning signs, when Jesus woke him up, and when the rooster started crowing**

**He violated his own heart when he betrayed Christ**

**He wept in his failure and his heart was broken**

**His reaction was to betray Christ**

**He was more invested in his self preservation than being loyal**

**His ego was crushed**

**He shut down his heart and pulled away from God and others**

# **The purification process for your heart**

**Ask yourself do you want a burning heart or a broken heart?**

**Humble yourself**

**Pay attention conviction from Holy Spirit**

**Transparent: be vulnerable**

**Confess: Take responsibility for your actions or what you should have done**

**Repent privately and publicly**

**Forgive others and yourself**

**Release the pain righteously**

**Don't rush the process**

**Turn to the cross frequently**

**Crush your ego**

**Justice: leave the outcome to the Lord**

**Psalm 51:10 create in me a clean heart oh God and renew a right spirit within me.**



# **Peter's story: his public confession**

**Jesus confronted Peter in front of the other disciples**

**Peter repented publicly**

**Peter encouraged Mark to write his story**

**Mark was Peter's spiritual son | Peter 5:13**

**Healing the broken heart  
And purifying your heart**