

# Heart Conflict



TRANSFORMING TRUTH

*Trends deceive. Traditions enslave. God's Truth transforms.*

From the Series,  
"Authentic Trust"

*1 John 3:19-24*  
*Preached 4/22/15*  
*Meadow Baptist Church*

## 1. The Assurance Of Our Hearts (19-21)

- a. The force of assurance (19) - "By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before Him..."
- b. The fluctuation of assurance (20) - "... for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and He knows everything."
- c. The flourishing of assurance (21) - "Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God."

## 2. The Prayers From Our Hearts (22)

- a. Affirmed prayer (22) - "...and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do what pleases Him."
- b. Anointed prayer (James 5:16-18) - "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit."
- c. Hindered prayer (1 Peter 3:7) - "Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered."
- d. Hypocritical prayer (Proverbs 21:13)- "Whoever closes his ear to the cry of the poor will himself call out and not be answered."

- e. Rejected prayer (Psalm 66:18) - "If I regard wickedness in my heart, the Lord will not hear."

**There is no escaping the reality that Scripture teaches that our behavior impacts the outcome of our prayers.**

### 3. The Direction Of Our Hearts (23-24)

- a. A supreme focus (23a) - "And this is His command: to believe in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ..."
- b. A secondary focus (23b) - "...and to love one another as He {Jesus} commanded us."
- c. A soothing focus (24) - "The one who keeps God's commands lives in Him, and He in them. And this is how we know that He lives in us: We know it by the Spirit He gave us."