

Jesus On Purpose: The Path Of A Resurrected Heart

PART 16 — RECAP: LOOK AT THE PATTERN: POWER MUST NEVER OUTFRAN THE HEART

I. WHERE THE FIRST SIX SERMONS BROUGHT US

For the first six sermons we asked one central question:

What kind of heart can carry resurrection life?

We watched Jesus establish the foundation before He ever began displaying the fullness of His power.

The pattern was:

1. **Love that comes close** — The Manger
2. **Faith that accepts suffering** — The Sword
3. **Obedience formed in obscurity** — Nazareth
4. **Identity rooted in the Father** — The Baptism
5. **Refusal of shortcuts** — The Wilderness
6. **Discipleship through self-death** — “Follow Me”

Jesus established the fundamentals first.

Love.

Obedience.

Humility.

Surrender.

Trust.

Death to self.

Only then does the ministry begin to explode with signs, healings, authority, miracles and revelation.

And looking back over Parts 8–15, I see an incredible pattern emerging:

Every time Jesus allows His disciples to see something amazing, He seems determined to bring their attention back to the heart.

He will show them glory...

and then talk about surrender.

He will perform a miracle...

and then expose corruption.

He will demonstrate supernatural authority...

and then teach humility.

He will calm a storm...

and then ask why they were afraid.

He will raise the dead...

and then warn them that miracles are not enough.

Jesus refuses to allow **awe to replace formation**.

Because the danger of experiencing resurrection power is that we can become fascinated by what God can do while completely missing what God is trying to make us become.

II. PART 8 — THE PATHWAY TO GRACE: POWER HAS AN INNER FOUNDATION

Before moving farther into Jesus' ministry, we stopped and identified the internal pathway that makes the resurrected heart possible:

Love → Obedience → Humility → Grace → Gifts

Everything begins with love.

Love produces obedience.

Obedience dismantles self-rule and forms humility.

Humility positions the heart to receive grace.

And grace produces gifts.

The critical revelation was:

The gifts are not the foundation. They are the fruit.

Our culture often wants to reverse the order.

We want:

Power.Anointing.Influence.Gifts.Platform.

But God begins much deeper.

He forms the heart first.

The goal of the gifts is not spiritual performance but maturity in Christ.

And that prepares us perfectly for what Jesus does next.

III. PART 9 — CANA: SURRENDER BEFORE GLORY

Then Jesus performs His first sign.

- **Mary must release control.**

She brings the need to Jesus, but she does not dictate the outcome.

Her words become:

“Whatever He tells you, do it.”

The order matters:

Surrender → then glory.

IV. PART 10 — FROM WINE TO WAR: GLORY MUST BE FOLLOWED BY CLEANSING

And then the pattern becomes almost impossible to miss.

Jesus turns water into wine.

People marvel. His glory is revealed. And immediately afterward...

He walks into the Temple and starts overturning tables. Why?

Because Jesus will not allow blessing to become a substitute for holiness.

- Cana says: **“Look at what God can do.”**
- The Temple says: **“Now let Me show you what God must remove.”**

Jesus demonstrates that true renewal does not begin with behavioral improvement.

It begins with **death and resurrection**.

“Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”

They thought buildings. Jesus meant resurrection.

- Then people begin believing because of His signs, but Jesus does not entrust Himself to them.

Why? Because **spectacle can produce fascination without transformation.**

They experienced the **what** without surrendering to the **Who**.

So immediately Jesus speaks to Nicodemus: **“You must be born again.”**

Not impressed. Not educated. Not religious. Not renovated. **Reborn.**

This is Jesus grounding the heart again.

The miracle says:

Power is real.

The cleansing and Nicodemus say:

But power without inner transformation will not save you.

V. PART 11 — THE BEATITUDES: WHAT KIND OF HEART CAN CARRY THE POWER?

Then Jesus slows everything down.

After people have begun seeing His authority and miracles, He sits down and teaches them what the Kingdom heart actually looks like.

****This may be one of the clearest examples of the pattern.*

Miracles reveal God's power.

The Beatitudes reveal what kind of heart can live with that power.

- Jesus begins with **descent**:

Poor in spirit — death to self-sufficiency.

Those who mourn — death to self-justification.

The meek — death to control and power.

- Then comes the turning point:

Hunger and thirst for righteousness.

The emptied heart begins craving the life of God.

- And then comes **ascent**:

Mercy. Purity. Peacemaking. Endurance through persecution.

***The Beatitudes are not simply nice Christian characteristics. They are the anatomy of the resurrected heart:

Death → emptiness → hunger → new life → Christlike character.

Jesus is teaching His disciples: *Do not become impressed with My power and forget My heart.*

Because the human heart wants power without surrender. The resurrected heart has already died to itself.

VI. PART 12 — THE STORM: NOW LET'S TEST WHAT I TAUGHT YOU

And then the classroom becomes a boat.

- They have heard the teaching. - Now the storm comes. - And suddenly all the theology becomes personal.

Jesus asks: **"Why are you so afraid?"**

The miracle is not simply Jesus controlling weather. The storm **exposes the condition** of the disciples.

They had already witnessed:

- authority over sickness
- authority over demons
- supernatural power

Yet pressure exposed the places where trust had still not formed.

This becomes another major revelation:

Miracles do not remove fear. They expose where surrender is still incomplete.

***Jesus is not merely forming people who believe He can calm storms. He is forming people who **do not require calm storms in order to trust Him.**

!!!!And this becomes crucial because the heart He is forming will eventually need to remain faithful under pressure far greater than a storm.!!!!

VII. PART 13 — JESUS NOW SHOWS US THE DIFFERENT HEARTS

This is where the series becomes **extraordinarily revealing.**

Before Jesus explains the Parable of the Sower... He lets us watch people become the soils.

- We see:

Faith. Doubt. Offense. Worship. Rejection. Pride. Hunger. Hardness.

- Jesus heals the centurion's servant, and we see a heart that trusts authority without needing visible proof.
- He raises the widow's son, and we see that resurrection power flows from compassion—not spectacle.

- John the Baptist struggles because Jesus does not behave according to his expectations, teaching us death to offense and expectation.
- The sinful woman receives forgiveness and pours herself out in love.
- Women who had received from Jesus now reorder their resources, loyalty and lives around His mission.
- Then the Pharisees watch supernatural deliverance and attribute the work of God to Satan.
- Others demand still more signs.

Jesus answers:

- **The final sign is resurrection!!**

And here the warning becomes profound: **It is possible to see God's work and still miss God Himself.**

VIII. PART 14 — THE SOWER: NOW JESUS EXPLAINS WHAT WE JUST SAW

Those stories were acted out with such strategy leading Jesus to then begin His parables to explain the heart of humanity in the simplest of terms

- So Jesus gives the interpretation.

The same seed falls everywhere. The difference is the soil.

- The Hardened Heart : The Word cannot penetrate.
- The Shallow Heart : It receives with excitement but cannot withstand suffering.
- The Divided Heart: Something begins growing, but competing loves slowly choke it.
- The Good Soil: It receives. It understands. It grows roots. It endures. It bears fruit.

This is perhaps the great warning of this whole section:

Exposure is not transformation.

You can hear Jesus. Watch Jesus. Admire Jesus. Experience Jesus. Even become excited about Jesus... and still never develop the heart capable of carrying resurrection life. (Songs Chapter 2,3 – 5)

IX. PART 15 — THE HARVEST: NOW JESUS TELLS US WHY ALL THIS FORMATION MATTERS

And now the entire series opens into eternity.

Why so much emphasis on the heart? Why surrender? Why suffering? Why roots? Why perseverance? Why obedience? Why does Jesus care so deeply about what the seed becomes?

Because:

There is a harvest coming.

Jesus says: ***"The harvest is the end of the age."***

Christ's resurrection was Firstfruits. It was not the entire harvest.

It was the guarantee that the harvest would come.

So the pattern becomes:

Jesus' resurrection → Firstfruits

Church Age → Growing Season

End of the Age → Harvest

Resurrection of the saints → Gathering and glorification

We are living in the growing season.

And this explains why God does not immediately remove every weed.

Jesus says: **"Let both grow together until the harvest."**

The growing season allows:

- roots to deepen
- character to develop
- allegiance to become visible
- perseverance to be tested
- wheat to mature

God is not merely waiting for history to end. **He is preparing people for eternity.**

- At the harvest:

The wheat is gathered. The tares are removed. The righteous shine. Resurrection reaches its fullness. And the growing season reveals what each life actually became.

X. THE PATTERN RUNNING THROUGH PARTS 8–15

When we step back, I think we can finally see what Jesus is doing.

He repeatedly moves between:

FORMATION Love. Obedience. Humility. Surrender.

REVELATION Wine. Healing. Deliverance. Authority. Resurrection power.

CORRECTION Do not confuse signs with transformation.

HEART FORMATION Become poor in spirit. Become meek. Trust Me. Release control.

TESTING Storms. Offense. Pressure. Competing loyalties.

WARNING You can see and still not perceive. You can hear and still not understand. You can receive and still fall away.

ESCHATOLOGICAL PURPOSE The harvest is coming.

XI. JESUS WILL NOT LET POWER BECOME THE POINT

And I think this is one of the **greatest revelations** of these eight sermons.

Jesus performs miracles... and then almost seems to deliberately **slow everything down**.

Because He knows the human heart.

We are attracted to:

- signs
- gifts
- power
- prophecy
- healing
- influence
- supernatural experiences

And Jesus continually pulls the disciples back: **"That is not the destination."**

- The miracle is revealing **Who He is**.
- But His teaching is revealing **who we must become**.

The gifts are wonderful. The power is real. The miracles matter. But none of them replace:

Love. Obedience. Humility. Surrender. Endurance. Faithfulness.

Because Matthew 7 eventually gives us the terrifying possibility of people saying:

"Did we not prophesy?" "Did we not cast out demons?" "Did we not perform miracles?"

And Jesus' concern is still: **Did I know you?**

Power cannot substitute for intimacy.

Gifts cannot substitute for character.

Miracles cannot substitute for surrender.

XII. THE TWO HALVES OF THE JOURNEY SO FAR

- **PARTS 1-6:**

Jesus forms the foundation of the resurrected heart.

- **PARTS 8-15:**

Jesus exposes that heart to resurrection power—and refuses to let the power corrupt the purpose.

THE THREAD RUNNING THROUGH EVERYTHING

I believe the pattern looks something like this:

Love → Obedience → Humility → Grace → Power → Testing → Deeper Surrender → Fruit → Endurance → Harvest → Resurrection → Glory

And then it starts making sense why Jesus' ministry looks the way it does.

- He performs something incredible...then teaches.
- He reveals power...then warns.
- He gives revelation...then allows pressure.
- He inspires awe...then confronts the heart.

Because He knows exactly what fallen humanity will do with power if character does not precede it. We will make the gift the goal. We will make the miracle the message. We will make the platform the evidence of God's favor.

Jesus refuses that. He continually returns us to:

Die. Surrender. Trust. Love. Obey. Endure.

Because He is not merely preparing us to perform resurrection power.

He is preparing us to be active participants in resurrection glory.

THE ONE SENTENCE THAT SUMMARIZES PARTS 8-15

Jesus repeatedly reveals the power of resurrection, then draws His disciples back to surrender, humility, trust and endurance, because His goal was never to create people fascinated by His miracles—His goal was to form people whose hearts could faithfully carry His life all the way to the harvest.

And that makes the warning intensely personal:

Do not become so fascinated with what Jesus can do that you stop becoming like Jesus.