

Discussion Questions:

Life of David: Part 2 – *What's in Your Heart?*

1. This week we continued in our series considering the life of David, and looked at having “a heart after God’s heart”. Is there anyone else besides David in the Scriptures you can think of who stands out particularly as having a heart after God’s heart? Who, and why?
2. Read 1 Samuel 16:7. How is God’s perspective different from ours?
  - a. What are some particular ways you see **our** perspective (i.e. valuing based on the outside instead of the heart) manifested today?

3. In the sermon, Pastor Kent drew our attention to two specific areas in which it’s important to look with God’s perspective rather than the world’s. Look up the following verses with reference to:

*Perspective on Difficult Situations*

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 ; 12:7-10

*Perspective on People*

2 Corinthians 5:16

4. In the sermon, there were three characteristics Pastor Kent mentioned of what a heart after God’s heart looks like. The first was: *Focused on & Fully committed to Following God.*
  - What would it look and feel like to live life completely open before God (not perfect, but completely open and laid bare before God)?
  - What do you think stops us from living that way?
5. The second characteristic was: *Concerned more with God’s reputation than our own.*
  - Consider Saul’s track record here – look back to 1 Samuel 15:24, 30. Contrast David’s boldness in 1 Sam. 17:26, 45-47, etc.

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- Talk together through Peter's denial of Christ. If you need hints, look to John 18:15-27. What are ways we are tempted to look after our own reputation more than God's reputation / glory?

6. The third characteristic was: *Shares the affections of God.* (i.e. "What burdens God, burdens me"). Here, Pastor Kent mentioned three areas in particular:

- God's heart for the lost
- God's heart for the poor
- God's heart for children

Take some time to consider each of those three areas. What would our response look like, if we grew in aligning our hearts with God's heart in each of those three areas?

7. Can you think of any other particular areas where it might be important to align our hearts and burdens with God's? If you run out of ideas, here are some example passages to consider:

Leviticus 19:34; Deuteronomy 27:19; Zechariah 7:9-10; James 1:27

Again, what would our response look like if we grew in aligning our hearts with God's heart in these areas?

8. Are there any areas of your life where you know God's heart, but you struggle to get there yourself? Would you be comfortable sharing what one of these areas might be, and praying for one another that God would capture your affections and align them with his?