

Beatitudes: THE PURE IN HEART

ICE BREAKER

- **What is my favorite food to eat during the summer to stay cool?**

Purity of Heart = Integrity. (the firm foundation that we will build our life upon. It's a house that we will build for ourselves).

In the Old Testament, heart was a term used to describe the driving force of your entire life - mind, will, and emotion. How do we use the word heart in our culture and is there a difference between how we use it and how they heard it in the first century? What difference does it make as we interpret and apply our passage?

Genesis 3:1-7

Our first instinct is to embrace vanity and hide from God.

Embracing vanity looks like finding our sense of identity and purpose from temporary things.

Matthew 23:25

The religious leaders in Jesus' day were doing the right things for the wrong reasons. Where do we see that pattern in lives today? If purity of heart is singularity of focus, where do you struggle to be pure in heart?

How do you know when you're hiding from God?

- There's a refusal to confess my sins to God in prayer. (**Psalm 32:3-7**)
- There's a lack of trust and vulnerability in my relationships. (**2 Corinthians 6:11-13**)
- There's no movement from the shallow things of God to the deep things of God. (**1 Peter 2:2**)
- There's a deep, permeating sense of insecurity that affects my everyday life. (**Isaiah 26:3**)
- There's an inability to rest and simply be with God. (**Psalm 62:5**)

New Posture: Wholehearted honesty before God.

Genesis 3:21; 1 John 1:9

How can we live out this beatitude in our world today both as individuals and as a community?

Matthew 5:8

APPLICATION

- Do I need to surrender my life to Jesus Christ and have my sins forgiven?
- What is one takeaway from today's message?