

The problem of the wicked heart: Mark 7:21-23

The solution: The heart must be transformed.

The need for heart and mind renewal

Key Verse #2: Psalm 119:11

*Your word I have hidden in my heart that I
might not sin against you.*

Some of the other key verses:

- Eph 4:20-24; key verse 23
- Romans 12:2
- Romans 12:3

The need to build biblical belief systems

Illustration: Johnny Unfortunate

Key Verse #3: John 8:32

And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

A Powerful Insightful Example

Matthew 13: 3-9, 18-23

Warnings

- Misunderstanding (v.20)
- Impediments (vv.20-21)
- Cares of the world (v.22)

The Promises from this illustration

- That of receiving truth
- That of bearing and producing

Establishing a Pathway to Success

Two Possible Definitions

Achieving the purpose for which God intended.

Striving for the purpose for which God intended.

Two Necessary Relationships

- #1. A relationship with God's _____
- #2. A relationship with God's _____

Key Verse #1: Joshua 1:8

"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success."

So, we need to ...

- _____ it (read it and hear it read)
- _____ on it (Chew on it)
- _____ it (be transformed by it)

As you have opportunity

- _____ it with others

What impedes success?

- Lack of discipline
- Discouragement
- Detours in life
- Our tongue
- Our heart
- Our mind; our thought life

Other related passages:

Psaln 1:2, Phil 4:8, 1Tim 4:15

Two questions:

- #1. What does it mean to meditate?
- #2. What portions of the Word are the most helpful?

The Meaning of Biblical Meditation

The primary meaning is “to murmur.” To speak just above a whisper; to ponder, to mutter, to utter softly or speak softly, just above a breath.

Romans 10:17

*So, then faith comes by hearing,
and hearing by the word of God.*

A Lesson from Sheepology

- An illustration of what it means to meditate

- The portions of the Word that are the most helpful
The ones that contain specific

- _____,
- _____, and
- _____ for us

Matthew 4:4

*“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.”*

How do we find these portions of Scripture?

#1. They can be pointed out by a t _____

#2. They are pointed out by the I _____

The difficulty with the tongue

- _____ things we ought not say

- _____ self talk

The darkness of the heart

- From the curse of original _____

- From the environment we _____ in