

MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY



PURE HEARTS

The Sermon on the Mount is a lengthy discourse given by Jesus on a hillside north of Capernaum, a fishing community on the northern edge of the Sea of Galilee. The first section, Matthew 5:3-12, is called “The Beatitudes.” Each one tells how to be “Blessed” by God. The “blessed” are those who are truly a part of God’s Kingdom; those who experience joy and hope, not because of their outward circumstances, but because of their inner spiritual relationship with God. True discipleship means faithful obedience to Jesus regardless of the cost or what the world thinks.

“God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God” (Matthew 5:8, NLT).

SCENARIO: You are at a biker rally CMA booth and you give a “Hope for the Highway” Bible to a biker who seems depressed and bewildered. The next day the biker finds you at the booth and approaches you. He/she says “I started reading this Bible in my tent last night, but when I got to Matthew 5:8 it said only the pure in heart will see God. I’m hopeless!”

Let’s discuss that verse to see how we can effectively answer that hurting biker.

1. As a group list and describe things that you or the world consider to be pure.
2. Discuss the characteristics that make those things pure.
3. True or False? The “heart” Jesus speaks of here is the physical organ that pumps your blood.
Psalm 51:10
4. Read Deuteronomy 6:5 and discuss what the word “heart” represents.
5. Can someone who has not been born again through faith in Jesus be spiritually pure of heart?
6. How is a person’s heart made pure? Psalm 51:7; John 3:16; Acts 15:8-9; 1 John 1:9
7. True or False? Pure hearts are created by God when He forgives our sins and makes us right with Him.
8. True or False? To be righteous and pure in heart is to be spiritually clean, innocent, sincere, and marked by integrity in personal relationships.
9. True or False? Those with pure hearts commit themselves fully to the Lord, live in steadfast integrity, and seek to minister to others in Jesus’ name.
10. Who will see God? Psalm 24:3-6; Psalm 51:10
11. Can/do the spiritually pure in heart see God now? Explain how, where, when, and in whom you see God today.
12. How can we be sure we will see God in Heaven? John 14:1-6; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18

Now, in light of the study we just completed, break off into pairs and explain to one another how the truths of Matthew 5:8 can help you minister to the biker at the rally who feels hopeless.

Close by praying God will give you divine opportunities, like the one in our study today, and that you will be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit in sharing the Good News of Jesus and the hope of Heaven.