

“But the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Don’t judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn’t see things the way you see them. **People judge by outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.**’” – 1 SAM. 16:7

“But God removed Saul and replaced him with David, a man about whom God said, ‘I have found David son of Jesse, **a man after my own heart.** He will do everything I want him to do.’” – ACTS 13:22

“The truth about a person is a matter of the heart and not the eyes.”

DR. BILL T. ARNOLD, THE NIV APPLICATION COMMENTARY

In the ancient world, the heart was the _____ of the mind, the soul, and the will

“**Guard your heart** above all else, for it determines the course of your life.” – PROV. 4:23

[Jesus] “It is what comes from inside that defiles you. For from within, **out of a person’s heart**, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, wickedness, deceit, lustful desires, envy, slander, pride, and foolishness. All these vile things come from within; they are what defile you.”

– MARK 7:20-23

“All that is gold does not glitter.” – GANDALF IN A LETTER TO FRODO IN “LORD OF THE RINGS”

God _____ us to allow Him to have _____ to our hearts

“The eyes of the Lord search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose **hearts are fully (“completely”) committed to him.**” – 2 CHRON. 16:9

“If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and **believe in your heart** that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For

it is by **believing in your heart** that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved.”
– ROM. 10:9-10

HOW DO WE CULTIVATE A HEART FOR GOD?

“**This is what the Sovereign Lord says...** ‘I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart. And I will put my Spirit in you so that you will follow my decrees and be careful to obey my regulations.’” – EZEK. 36:13, 26-27

- We cultivate a heart that _____ God
“Come, let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the Lord our maker, for he is our God.” – PSA. 95:6-7
- We cultivate a heart that _____ God
“The Lord is my light and my salvation—so why should I be afraid? The Lord is my fortress, protecting me from danger, so why should I tremble?” – PSA. 27:1
- We cultivate a heart that _____ God
“I love you, Lord; you are my strength.” – PSA. 18:1
- We cultivate a heart that is _____ to God
“May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.”
– PSA. 19:14
- We cultivate a heart that is _____ to God
“Give me understanding and I will obey your instructions; I will put them into practice with all my heart.” – PSA. 119:34
- We cultivate a _____ heart
“Have mercy on me, O God, because of your unfailing love. Because of your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins. Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin. For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night.”
– Ps. 51:1-3