

Date:

Podcast Worksheet
Dualism: Heart of Stone or Heart of Flesh?
Part 1: Understanding Dualism

Scriptural Text:

Ezekiel 11:19; John 13:34-35; 14:27

Main Points:

1. The goal of the Christian life is to live like Christ.
2. Jesus tells us we are to love one another, without qualifiers or parameters.
3. Dualism is a divided heart, trying to love God without loving others.
4. Dualism is trying to serve God on our terms, without surrendering our heart.
5. In order to heal the split in our heart, God needs to give us a heart transplant.
6. Dualism is an attitude of judgment, dividing the world into the good guys and the bad guys.
7. *The mentality that divides the world into "deserving and undeserving" has not yet experienced the absolute gratuity of grace or the underserved character of mercy...The lack of forgiveness takes the forms of a tortured mind, a closed heart, or an inability to live calmly and proudly inside one's own body. A Stream Within Us, by Richard Rohr*
8. Pride and fear propel dualism, pride in an attitude that we're qualified to judge others, and fear of losing something we value.
9. Pride believes we are worthy of kindness and respect, but others are not.
10. Jesus says we are not to allow ourselves to be troubled by different beliefs and perspectives. Instead, we are to trust God's sovereignty and wisdom to handle it.
11. Fear and love are mutually exclusive. Operating out of fear makes our life very small.
12. Dualism creates a very narrow world in which we will allow God to use us for his work.

Questions:

1. In what ways have you put qualifiers or parameters on who you will love, or treat with kindness and respect?

2. Has pride interfered in your choices to follow Jesus and love people as he did? If so, how?

3. Has fear been a factor in limiting you from accepting certain people and groups? If so, how?

Prayer of Response:

Lord God, I realize I have a divided heart and I need your healing. Please take my heart of stone and replace it with a heart of flesh so I can learn to love as Jesus loves. Put an end to my pride and fear and help me trust you more. In Jesus name, amen.

Commitment: After prayerful meditation on this podcast, I am going to _____
