

Skillman Bible Church
Adult Teaching - October 6
7 Avoided Prayers - Week 5: "Lord, Change my Heart"

Retrospect: Week 4 – "Lord, Give me Faith"

Biblical imperative:

Matthew 6:25-34

What does Christ instruct his followers not to do? Why is this hard?

2 Corinthians 9:7 (ESV)

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

What is Paul's concern in this passage about giving?

1 Peter 3:8-9 (ESV)

"Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing."

What is Peter urging to do? Why is this hard?

Biblical examples:

Psalm 51:10 (ESV)

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me."

Ezekiel 36:26 (ESV)

"And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh."

Who does the work of heart change?

Application:

How do wrong attitudes impact us?

How does heart change happen? How does prayer fit in?

Challenge for the week – Where does your heart need changing? What are attitudes need to come into line with Scripture's call? Pray for God to change your heart in these matters this week.

"O Lord, who has mercy on all,
take away from me my sins,
and mercifully kindle in me
the fire of your Holy Spirit.
Take away from me the heart of stone,
and give me a heart of flesh,
a heart to love and adore you,
a heart to delight in you,
to follow and enjoy you,
for Christ's sake, Amen"
-St. Ambrose of Milan (AD 339-397)