https://www.covenantfamilychapel.org/sermons/

#### **Review**

So we have been talking about the heart of mankind and how our hearts are what both God and Satan are after. Because....

- the condition of our hearts will determine how God responds to everything we do.
- ❖So, if our hearts control what we receive then we must work on our heart's purity.
- ❖ If we will be Pure in heart, we must know how to deal with: sin and the flesh.
- ❖ In our last we looked how to Guard our hearts.
- \*Pro 4:23 (AMPC) Keep and guard your heart with all vigilance and above all that you guard, for out of it flow the springs of life.

## **❖** Gateways to Our Hearts

- ➤ What we SEE (IMAGES)
- ➤ What we HEAR (INFORMATION)
- ➤ What we EXPERIENCE (INVOLVEMENT)

❖ Just because you see an image, hear a word, and go through an experience does not mean it has entered your heart. It must go through a process. What is that process?

## **❖ How Do Things Enter into Our Hearts?**

- ➤ You must accept and believe it.
- ➤ You must hear, see, or experience it over and over.
- ➤ When that thing occupies your mind most of the time, it will get into your heart.

## **Wayside Heart Condition**

- In Matthew 13:1-8, 18-23, Jesus tells a parable and compares the <u>condition of a person's heart to the condition of soil</u> in a field.
- Jesus lists four types of soil in Matthew 13:1-8 showing four different heart conditions.
  - 1. Wayside heart condition.
  - 2. Stony places heart condition
  - 3. Among Thorns heart condition
  - 4. Good ground heart condition
- Once we know our heart condition, we will know where we need improve our soil.

# A. Wayside heart condition - what truth am I refusing to believe

#### Matthew 13:4

On a wayside or path, seeds would be trampled by pedestrians or devoured by birds.

Similarly, there may be some aspect of God's truth in your life that is being trampled by you or others or snatched up before it can take root. It shows itself this way: the way you respond to truth is sometimes hostile, apathetic, rejection or ignore it long enough that the "birds" come and take it away.

## **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. What truths are being spoken into my life that I am refusing to believe?
- 2. What advice or admonishing am I refusing to accept of follow?
- 3. Is there anything I am intentionally avoiding?
- 4. Are there any sin in my life I am justifying?
- 5. Are you in a relatively healthy place, or can you think of times when your heart has been rejecting certain truths.
- 6. Based on your answers to these questions, what is the condition of your heart?

**PRAYER TIME**: Examining your heart and seeing yourself clearly requires prayer *Psalm* 139:23-24. So let us pray....

## **Growth Group Meeting**

For the week of February 11, 2024

#### WHAT'S YOUR HIGHLIGHT?

Looking back at your notes *from the video presentation and discipleship moments on the wayside heart condition,* was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

#### WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

- 1. Are you in a relatively healthy place, or can you think of times when your heart has been rejecting certain truths?
- 2. Are there any sin in my life I am justifying?
  Based on your answers to these questions, what is the condition of your heart?

### PRAYER TIME

Examining our hearts and seeing ourselves clearly requires prayer Psalm 139:23-24. We need the Holy Spirit to give us the eyes to see and reveal to us what He wants to change. So let us pray.....