

**CLASS 3****Developing the Heart of a Leader****CLASS OVERVIEW**

In this class we will review:

- The importance of developing the heart of a leader.
- What a godly leader's heart looks like.
- How to develop the heart of a leader.

**Opening Group Questions:**

- What are the characteristics of a "leader's heart"?
- Why is the "heart" so vital for a godly leader?

*Heart - seat of desire, inclination and will, the "inner man," thought, emotion, will tied together.*

**I. Introduction**

"Much of the problem with ungodly leadership does not lie in our heads; it lies in our hearts, and this affects our hands, making us powerless and ineffective."

Lawrence, B. (1999). *Effective Pastoring* (p. 32). USA: Word Publishing.

Do you *have* the heart of a leader? Do you *want* to have the heart of a leader?

God's people, and especially those He calls to positions of leadership in His Church, need to be developing His heart. Throughout the pages of the Bible, we read about the godly heart. Additionally we read about the need for true Christians to have God's heart in them.

God, through His word, warns about the power of the heart that is not conquered by Him:

Deut 5:29—"Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!"

Jer 17:9—"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?"

God also clearly outlines the positive characteristics of a godly heart. In fact, it is His desire for us to also become people "after His own heart" (Acts 13:22).

**II. Characteristics of a Zealous and Godly Heart** (Handout 1)

Zeal is a characteristic that God wants to see in His servants (Rev 3:19). One synonym of zeal is *intensity*. Zeal is thus reflected in the list of characteristics below. A zealous, godly heart, and consequently the *heart of a leader* also has the following characteristics:

**A. It Is Intensely Focused on *God's Kingdom***

Luke 12:34—Where your treasure is your heart will be also.

Matt 6:33—Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.

Acts 24:15—Our hope should be in the resurrection of the dead, as was the Apostle Paul's.

Matt 6:19-21—Our heart needs to focus on God's kingdom.

**B. It Is Focused on *God's Work***

John 4:34—Christ's purpose on this earth was to do the Father's will and to finish His work.

Matt 28:19-20—Christ's command to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom to the whole world.