

## MATTERS OF THE HEART

### WHERE'S THE HEART?

- Common usages
  1. To designate desire
  2. To designate compassion and love
  3. To designate courage
- More than a metaphor (***Proverbs 4:23 NKJV***)
  1. Core of our being
  2. Life flows out of our heart
  3. Put a guard on mind, mouth and methods

### WHEN HEART MATTERED MOST (***Luke 19:1-10 NKJV***)

- Zacchaeus had a genuine heart hunger
  1. He was powerful and rich
  2. His actions revealed his heart
- Jesus responded to a hungry heart
  1. Jesus not caught up in societal pressure
  2. Religion had rejected Zacchaeus, but Jesus accepted him
- When Zacchaeus realized Jesus had a heart for him
  1. Changed him from greedy to giving
  2. He went from ripping people off to restoring over and above
  3. Jesus used Zacchaeus' example to reiterate His purpose

### OUR HEART MATTERS

- God is a heart - first God (***1 Samuel 16:6-7 NKJV***)
  1. People are easily moved by appearances
  2. God is not moved by a pretty face
- We constantly have to recalibrate our hearts (***2 Corinthians 9:7 NKJV***)
  1. In whatever we do, do it...
  2. Do it because we want to
  3. Purpose in our hearts is a heart decision
- Jesus love for us is still the best motivator (***2 Corinthians 5:15 NKJV***)
  1. Much easier to make changes - when we believe His love for us
  2. Love is the best motive for heart change - not fear or force