

A HEART-FIRST PERSPECTIVE

(Virtual Sunday #7)

OUR PERSPECTIVES INFLUENCE OUR QUALITY OF LIFE

- Healthy perspectives
 1. Grateful - appreciative of what they have, see life as a gift
 2. Growth - don't see life as win/lose but as an opportunity to learn/grow
 3. Optimistic - looking for the best, sees the opportunity not the opposition
- Heart-First perspective
 1. What is happening in us is more important than what is happening to or around us
(Proverbs 15:15 AMPC)
 2. A glad heart is function of...

TWO PERSPECTIVES OF THE FUTURE

- The nation of Israel faced some challenges in their future
 1. The land God had promised them was full of big aggressive people
- A despondent perspective **(Numbers 13:30-33; Numbers 14:1-3 NKJV)**
 1. We can not do this - don't have the strength or size
 2. Caused a negative reaction in the people - wept all night (no shots fired)
- A different perspective **(Numbers 14:6-9 NKJV)**
 1. We can do this - we're well able
 2. God will help us - He is on our side, we have the advantage
 3. Big message - do not fear
- The difference in perspective **(Joshua 14:7-8 NKJV)**
 1. Caleb gave a report based on what was in his heart
 2. Caleb intentionally followed the Lord - not the majority

A HEART-FIRST PERSPECTIVE FOR OUR FUTURE

- Don't deny or magnify the challenges in our future
 1. To magnify is to constantly talk and think about the challenges
 2. We don't diminish the problems talking about them all the time
- What is the word that's in our heart
 1. We can do this - God will help us - we will prevail
 2. We have His promises in the Bible **(Romans 8:31-32 NKJV)**
 3. We have the word the Holy Spirit whispers to our heart
- We are people with a relationship with God
 1. We are not in this alone
 2. We are His children **(Ephesians 1:5 NLT)**
 3. Jesus' invitation still stands to follow Him