

A BLESSED LIFE

Part 3: A Heart for Blessings

IT'S A HEART THING

A. When we use the term heart

1. To express love for another
2. To express courage
3. To express an affinity for something

B. Blessings and heart

1. Blessings are God's favor, protection, action and involvement in our lives
2. Our heart has a part **(1 Samuel 16:7 NIV)**
3. The great news is we can't always change the externals - we can change our hearts

A HEART FOR BLESSINGS

A. Solomon had a heart for God **(1 Kings 3:3-5 NIV)**

1. He loved God - obeyed God's commandments
2. He offered a significant sacrifice - to the point that the number was recorded
3. He was not perfect - didn't worship in the right place

B. Solomon recognized his need for God **(1 Kings 3:7-9 NIV)**

1. He recognized that God was the One who made him king
2. He was raised in the palace as an only child and a prince

C. The biggest thing on Solomon's heart was for wisdom to help God's people

1. He knew that Israel were God's people
2. His heart was to be a blessing

D. Solomon's simple request produced big results **(1 Kings 3:10-13 NIV)**

1. His request pleased God - not about him, not about personal gain
2. God went way over and above his request

DEVELOPING A HEART FOR BLESSINGS

A. Give God a bigger place

1. A love for God will be expressed in words and actions
2. Honoring God **(Philippians 4:18-19 NIV)**

B. Recognize / Acknowledge our need for God

1. This is what biblical humility is all about
2. We need Him for our salvation and to live for Him **(1 Timothy 4:8 NIV)**

C. Ask for wisdom to be a blessing to God's people

1. Tying our lives to something bigger
2. There is a promise associated with a heart for God **(Matthew 6:33 NKJV)**