

The Undivided Heart

November 22-28, 2026

READ MATTHEW 5:8.

Honesty is difficult. We don't want people to see our flaws or even that we may not be as exciting, stylish, or happy as the people around us. So, instead of being honest, it can be much easier to tell people we are "doing fine."

When it comes to our relationship with God, we may think that honesty is the last thing he wants from us. He wants us to obey him, be righteous, and live like Jesus. We fail so often that we assume honesty will only hurt our relationship with him. But when Jesus commands us to be "pure in heart," he is not after perfection. He wants honesty—an undivided heart rather than a high-powered resume. In this session, we'll learn that being pure in heart is an invitation to come into the presence of God just as we are.

WATCH THIS WEEK'S VIDEO: SESSION 6, MATTHEW 5:8

For those of us who know ourselves well, and who are honest enough to admit it, being pure in heart feels impossible.

> **Have you ever tried to achieve pureness of heart? What actions or discipline have you tried to get rid of your struggles, doubts, or fears? Were those attempts successful?**

Many of us carry a fear of being found out. We're aware of our struggles and sins but are afraid about making them known. But God sees us. He is already aware of our struggles, and he is inviting us to come to him—to abide in him—hold nothing back, and receive his mercy.

> **What will it take for you to let down your guard and offer your whole life to God? How might remembering that God abides in you, and you in him, help you let your guard down?**

One of the critical pieces to being pure in heart is not only being honest and transparent with God but embracing and practicing the same honesty and transparency with other Christians as well.

> **What is your experience with Christian community and accountability? Who are some of the people in your life with whom you can be honest and transparent about your struggles, doubts, and fears?**

> **What steps could this small group take to become more accountable and transparent with one another? What could help you continue to grow as a community that gives mercy to one another?**

The pure in heart are not perfect people. The pure in heart are those who exercise honesty and transparency before God, knowing that to hide from God is to hide the very thing we need most—his mercy. So, we run to him, especially in our distress. And as we do so, God welcomes us into his presence with love and grace.