

**WHY DO WE DO WHAT WE DO?**

(Rawene Baptist – 6/6/04 – EKB)

For example: We might be kind, generous or selfish, fearful or hateful.  
 Jesus said, “What we do, comes from what is in our heart, be it good or bad.

*Mat 12:34-37* **The words we speak come from what is in our heart**, our ideas, thoughts, attitudes, values, desires – good or bad, v35.

*Mat 15:18,19* **The things we say, and the things we do come from what is in our heart** – good or bad.

*Pro 4:23* **Make sure your heart is right**, because what you do comes from there.

*Pro 23:7* What you think about in your heart, is the way you live and that’s the kind of person you are.

Examples:

*Lk 18:9-14* What was in:  
 a. the Pharisee’s heart? He was proud, self righteous and despised others.  
 b. the tax collector’s heart? He was humble, confessed his sins and asked for mercy.  
 God rejected the Pharisee and his prayers but He accepted the tax collector and forgave him his sins.

*Lk 19:1-10* What was in the chief tax collector, Zacchaeus’ heart:  
 a. before He met Jesus? He was a cheat, a thief and a liar by which he had become very rich.  
 b. after He had met Jesus? He became generous, kind, merciful and truthful  
 Meeting Jesus brought repentance from sin and obedience to God’s commands. *Mk 12:29-31*.

*Mk 16:9-14* What was in the eleven apostles’ hearts, when Mary told them she had seen Jesus, after He had risen from the dead? (*Jn 20:17*). They refused to believe that Mary had seen the risen Jesus. They believed he was still dead. When Jesus appeared He rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart.

*Mat 8:18,23-27* What was in the disciples’ hearts during the storm? Fear and lack of faith gripped their heart. Jesus had commanded them to cross the lake, v18, and He was in the boat. He rebuked them.

*Lk 9:51-56* What was in James’ and John’s hearts when the Samaritans refused them hospitality? They immediately had thoughts of calling down fire from heaven to destroy the Samaritans. Jesus rebuked them and said He did not come to destroy people but to save them.

*Lk 9:49,50* What was in John’s heart when he found other people casting out demons in Jesus’ Name? He commanded them to stop because they were not in Jesus’ group. In his heart he believed they were the only ones who were qualified to serve Jesus.

**How can we change what we do for the better?**

David cried out to God, “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.” *Ps 51:10*.

God says, “My son, My daughter, give Me your heart, and focus your eyes on My ways,” (My word, My will, My truth), *Pro 23:26*. There is a time for all of us to give our heart to the Lord, and acknowledge Jesus as Lord of our whole life.

**God promises, to give us a clean/new heart, and a new spirit, so that we will be able to please Him**, *Ezk 36:25-27, Eph 5:26, Jn 4:14*. [clean water = God’s Word and God’s Spirit]. He also promises to cleanse our hearts, to love Him, with all our heart, and with all our soul, that we may live, *Deut 30:6*.

**Jesus said that as we keep in His Word, in faith**, we will be following Him, and His Word of Truth, will set us free from all sin, *Jn 8:31-36*. Similarly, in *2Cor 3:18*, God’s Word is His mirror to see His glory, and this changes us to be like Him.

In *Jer 24:7*, God promises to give us a heart to know Him, that He is the Lord; and we shall be His people and He will be our God. We shall return to Him with our whole heart.

**Tell God what needs to be changed. Take a stand against the wrong and choose the right way.**

**Keep believing God to do what He has promised to do. HE WILL DO IT.** *Rom 6:6,11,14, Rom 8:2*.

**Thank Him, Praise Him, Trust him.** *1Jn 1:9, Pro 1:23, Rev 3:19,20*.