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| CCG STUDY  GUIDE week Nice to meet you Welcome! Understanding the sermon What did He say? What kind of tree is that?THe first step to knowing the first step Turn the light on before you walk the wrong way Perfection To be matured or complete | |  | | --- | | The Perfect heartRich nordberg May 13, 2018 |  Getting to know you What’s something in your house you want to get rid of but can’t? Summary of this weeks sermon What is something that stuck out about the sermon?  What is something you heard that helped you understand the scripture and/or has change the way that you will live? in the word Psalms 102:2 I will be careful to lead a blameless life  when will you come to me? I will conduct the affairs of my house  with a blameless heart.  Genesis 17:1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, 2 that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.” What is the heart? "Heart. (Hebrew lēbāb/lēb; Gk. kardia) occurs over one thousand times in the Bible, making it the most common anthropological term in the Scripture." Look at the scripture on the heart and what it means to us.  1 Sam. 16:7 But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."  What happens when we try to make judgments about people around us when we look at the outward appearance?  Have others made judgments about you?  Prov. 25:3 As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth,  so the heart of kings is unsearchable.  1 Cor. 4:5 Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart.    In our relationships with others are we guilty of thinking we know where their hearts are? What is the outcome?  Jer. 17:10 “I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.”  Matt. 12:33–34 Jesus says that the heart’s secrets are betrayed by the mouth, even as a tree’s fruit discloses its nature  Prov. 16:23 A wise man’s heart guides his mouth,” says Solomon  Rom. 10:9 Most important, the mouth confesses what the heart trusts  What do we attempt to hide in our hearts?  What does it mean that our heart's secrets are betrayed by our mouths?  What type of tree would people consider you to be based on the fruit of your mouth?  Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?  Mark 7:21–23 For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, 22 coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. 23 All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”  How does this conflict with the worlds view on what the heart is?  What is your experience when someone follows their heart?  What’s easier, following your heart or following GOD? If we CAN’T trust ourselves what do we do? Making no assumptions, the first step is to put your faith in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.  "A Christian is a person who has responded to the conviction of the Holy Spirit ([John 6:44](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/John%206.44)) by putting his or her whole faith in the finished work of Christ for salvation ([Ephesians 2:8–9](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Eph%202.8%E2%80%939); [John 3:15–18](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/John%203.15%E2%80%9318)). Christians are those who have repented of their sin and have made Jesus Lord of their lives ([Romans 10:9–10](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Rom%2010.9%E2%80%9310); [Acts 2:38](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Acts%202.38)). They are born again by the power of the Holy Spirit ([John 3:6–7](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/John%203.6%E2%80%937))."  Because we have been made a new creation and have been given a new spirit we now have the ability to do good works.  2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.  Titus 2:14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.  Is it possible to do "good works" before salvation, and after salvation why is it different? Who gets the praise before/after?  So, because we have a new heart we can now trust ourselves, right?  "that does not mean that we can rely on our hearts after we come to faith in Christ. Even as believers, we are encouraged to follow God’s will over our own desires. The Bible teaches that “the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want” ([Galatians 5:17](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Gal%205.17))."  Romans 7:21 So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. 22 For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, 23 but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my …  What can we conclude from Paul's struggle?  Although we are made new creation, there remains a battle within us so we must put our trust in God.  Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.  Psalm 93:5 Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore.  Titus 1:9 He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.  In what parts of your life are you trusting in God and in which parts are you relying on yourself?  How do you make important decisions in your life?  Is there a time in your life when you should have trusted your parents or a authority in your life?  What does it feel like when you are trying to gain the trust of someone that you are in authority over and they don’t trust you? (especially when you have made the same mistake in your life and see the pain they are about to experience)  How do you think God feels when we put our trust in ourselves and not him? what do the scriptures mean "perfect"? Colossians 1:28 (KJV) 28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:  The word perfect translated to Greek is "τέλειος" or *teleios.* A better translation would be complete or matured.  What does it mean to be complete in Christ Jesus? When will we be fully matured or completed in Christ Jesus?  What should we want our hearts to look like? Was there an example of a man in the old testament that did this?  How do we know where are hearts are?  Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.  Psalm 119:11 I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.  What should we use to test our hearts?  How do we store up the word in our hearts? How can we get better at this?  Proverbs 28:14 Blessed is the one who fears the Lord always, but whoever hardens his heart will fall into calamity.  How do we keep our hearts from hardening?  Matthew 5:8 “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.  Describe how this is part of the maturing or completion of our hearts.  Luke 16:15 And he said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God. Summary Proverbs 3:5-6 5 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. |