



CELL GUIDE 2015

Theme	Wings & Weights
Topic	Pure Heart
Speaker	DSP Chua Seng Lee
Date	5 th and 6 th September 2015

Message Summary

Spiritual Objective: How to have a Pure Heart

Sermon key text: 2 Timothy 2:14-26

In this chapter, Paul contrasts people within the Church – true vs false teachers (v14-19), vessels of honourable vs dishonourable (v20-21) and kind vs quarrelsome members (v22-26) – in order to point out the principle of right pursuit. Pursuing the right things *intentionally* is important because we will be sucked into doing the wrong things if we are not intentional. However, it is emphasized that we are not to pursue it alone; we should do it with people who call on the Lord from a pure heart (v22).

What Does it Mean to Have a Pure Heart?

1. Reject your carnal heart

It is written in Jeremiah 17:9 that the heart is more deceitful than all else and desperately sick, something we cannot understand. We should therefore not trust our hearts. In pursuing a pure heart, there are three aspects to take into consideration – faith, facts and feelings. The order is important. Faith *must* be first; it must be bigger than the facts of life because God is greater than these facts as He is faithful and He alone can change the facts. Facts on the other hand, must come before feelings precisely because the heart is very deceitful and we need to check the facts first. These will then help in managing our feelings so that our feelings do not manage us. For example, one common deception of the heart is telling ourselves that God will understand if we sin. This is self-deception because God is Just even as He loves us. Telling ourselves that God will understand is only meaningful when we are truly repentant. Seeing that faith is most crucial, we must build up faith convictions, formed based on our personal experiences with the reality of God in our lives.

2. Rely on God

We need a pure heart because it is only then that we can stand in the presence of God (Ps 24:3-4). What then is a pure heart? A pure heart is one that is not carnal and not contaminated by the things of this world as well as one that is centred on God and His Will. We need to guard our hearts for from the heart flows the springs of life (Prov 4:23) and to prevent it from getting contaminated. In order to do that, we should rely on God by drawing near to Him with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, knowing that we are cleansed by Jesus' blood (Heb 10:22). We should not rely on our own strength even if it may seem easier and natural, because doing so will weary us.

3. Receive His Revelation

Matthew 5:8 states that blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God. In other words, true joy comes when we can see God. Seeing God is not merely in the literal sense but in many other ways. We can in fact see Him all around us through creation and amongst the poor. Ask God, seek Him and He will unveil your eyes to behold Him.



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Conclusion

2 Timothy 2: 14-26 is about the right pursuit of God that we should always be intentional about. However, pursuing the right things should be done with others who are pure in heart. To have a pure heart, we should reject our carnal hearts, rely on God and receive His revelation. We should reject our carnal hearts because the heart is more deceitful above all else and we cannot fathom it or should we trust it. Instead, we should build up faith convictions with God's help and live by them. A pure heart is important because it is only then that we can stand before the presence of God. In order to have a pure heart, we should rely on Him with full assurance of faith as He has cleansed us through Jesus' blood and He will give us the strength to do so. Lastly, true joy comes when we are able to see God. Ask of the Lord and He will grant you revelation as you abide in Him.

Questions

1) A pure heart means to reject your carnal heart, rely on God and receive His revelation. Which of these points do you struggle with the most? Why?

(Fill In Answer Here)

2) Faith is crucial in having a pure heart. What role(s) does it play and how does it aid in your pursuit of God?

(Fill In Answer Here)

3) What are concrete ways you can take to work towards having a pure heart?

(Fill In Answer Here)