

Whoever finds his life will
lose it, and whoever loses
his life for my sake will
find it.
Mt 10:39

Share the teaching
Guard the sharing

Male Call

April 27, 2007

“Abide in me”—A Tale of Two Kings—part II

6:00 – 6:05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Coffee & Donuts 2) Opening Prayer
6:05 – 6:25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Abide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Faith (my response to God’s gift; see Rom 12:3, James 2:1) b) Obedience (manifestation of my faith—God meets me here) c) Abiding (I in Jesus, then Jesus in me) d) Fruit (Transformed character, see Gal 5:22-23) e) Works (James) 2) Many, many, many examples of obedience, fruit, and works <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Scripture b) Didache (did-ahk-ay)—thought to have been written around AD 50-100 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) The way of life ii) The way of death c) But, see Mt 23:25-26 3) Must be careful, God looks at the heart (center of feelings, will, and intellect) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Gen 6:5 b) 1Chr 28:9, 29:17-18 c) Ps 26:1-2, 51:10 d) Pro 4:23 e) Jer 20:7-12 f) James 5:1-6 <p>Lewis S. Chafer: “The word heart occurs over 600 times in the Old Testament and at least 210 times in the New Testament....The extensive use of the word heart in all its varied implications places it in a position of extreme importance.”¹</p> 4) A Tale of Two Kings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Saul <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Made King of all Israel (1Sam 9 and following)

¹Grace Seminary. (1971; 2002). *Grace Journal Volume 12* (12:36). Grace Seminary.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii) Saul told to wait 7 days for Samuel to make a sacrifice (1Sam 10:8) iii) Samuel is late, the men are leaving; Saul makes the sacrifice (1Sam 13:8-12) iv) God gives the line of Kingship to another (1 Sam 13-14) v) Saul disobeys again by not destroying all captured from the Amalekites (1 Sam 15:3, 9) vi) Saul again disappoints God and is rejected (1Sam 15:11, 25-26) vii) New king is to be a man after God's own heart (1 Sam 13:14) <p>b) David</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) God knows David's heart (1Sam 16:7) ii) David has at least seven wives (2Sam 3:2-5, 14) iii) God promises David the line of Kingship (2Sam 7:8-16, Davidic covenant) iv) First "big" sin: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) David commits adultery and kills Uriah (2Sam 11:1-27) (2) God's accusations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Despised the word of God (2Sam 12:9) (b) Gives God's enemies opportunity to blaspheme (2Sam 12:14) (3) God punishes David, but does not revoke his promise (2Sam 12:10-12, 15-18; note—2Sam 12:12 fulfilled in 2Sam 16:22) (4) David repents, God forgives David (2Sam 12:13, Ps 51) v) Second "big" sin: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) David takes a census of the men of fighting age (2Sam 24:1; 1Chr 21:1) (2) God strikes (1Chr 21:7) (3) David repents (2Sam 24:10; 1Chr 21:8) (4) David given a choice of punishments (2Sam 24:12-17; 1Chr 21:11-15) (5) God forgives (2Sam 24:25; note—sacrifice performed on future site of the Temple) <p>5) Some observations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) From man's perspective, David's sins certainly seem much worse than Saul's b) Line of Kingship taken away from Saul but not David c) Key verse is 1Sam 16:7 (<i>the Lord looks at the heart</i>) <p>6) Some conclusions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) It is not sufficient to "act" right; the inside must be clean as well as the outside (Mt 23:25-26) b) We must love God with our "heart"—heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mt 22:36-40) c) We must strive to be pure of heart (Mt 5:8) d) We must act from the heart: (Eph 6:5-6) e) Seek after god (Mk 2:2-5) <p>7) Field trip</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) On the teeter-totter: Legalism v. License b) Walking the plank: seek the edge or seek the Cross c) Freedom in Christ comes when we seek first his righteousness through obedience
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6:25 – 7:00	<p>Interaction and prayer</p> <p>1) How did your dual challenge go this week? [1) 5 min reading the Bible, 5 min in meditation, 5 min in prayer; 2) praying with your family]?</p> <p>2) Jesus gives us a “heart test.” For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Mk 6:21).</p> <p>a) What are your treasures?</p> <p>b) Where are they?</p> <p>3) Paul tells us to test ourselves (2Cor 13:5). How should we conduct such a test?</p> <p>4) Are you abiding in Jesus? What is the evidence?</p>
7:00	Closing Prayer

Further reading:

- The *Bible*
- McCall, Larry E. *Walking Like Jesus Did*
- Foster, Richard J. *Celebration of the Disciplines*
- Hybels, Bill. *Too Busy Not To Pray*
- Hughes, R. Kent. *Disciplines of a Godly Man*
- Murray, Andrew. *With Christ in the School of Prayer*
- Kaiser, Walter C., et al. *Hard Sayings of the Bible*