

Acceptance

When you feel chosen, you create messages about yourself that are congruent with God's truth about who you are: you are beautiful, you are special, and you are beloved. When you are not chosen, you create distorted beliefs about yourself that are not consistent with whom God has created you to be: I am not enough. I am not loveable, and I fall short of others.

Dr. Mark Laaser

What We Are Looking For
is Already Here!

Part 1: Acceptance



November 6, 2022

New Series

“One of the greatest gifts that God gives us is a desire to know him.” Mike Bickle

Ephesians 1:4 MSG

Long before he laid down earth's foundations, he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love, to be made whole and holy by his love.

The Heart

When the Bible talks about the heart, it is referring to that spiritual part of us where our emotions and desires dwell.

Anthony Hoekema, *Create in God's Image*

Proverbs 4:23

“Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life”.

Mark 7:21-23 NIV

For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come.

“Our lives are shaped by the things we desire.”

Thomas Merton

Longings and Desires of the Heart

A longing, simply put, is a persistent craving to satisfy a God-given need or desire that is inherent to all people.

Ben Bennett

Psalm 145:19 NLT

He grants the desires of those who fear him;
he hears their cries for help and rescues them.

Psalm 145:16 NIV

You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

Hebrews 4:12-13 NLT

12 For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires. 13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable.

Needs

2 Peter 1:3 NLT

3 By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence.