



SEEING GOD Matthew 5:8

CONNECT

1. When you hear the phrase “pure in heart,” what’s your immediate reaction? Does it strike you as wimpy, impossible, beautiful, too churchy, uncomfortable . . . or?

CELEBRATE

2. Read Psalm 24:3–6. From this passage, how would you define someone who is pure in heart? What characteristics from this passage do they possess?
3. Read James 4:8. What is the opposite of a pure heart? Based on this verse, what is a pure heart?
4. We often feel that a pure heart is good, but not necessary. Read 1 Corinthians 6:9–11. What happens to those who are never cleansed or purified? How essential is a pure heart?
5. How much do you want to be pure in heart? Examine the past few weeks. What effort have you put into pursuing a pure life and having a pure, undivided heart?
6. Now read Matthew 5:8 again. Examine the past few weeks and think about how close you have felt to God in this time. How does your closeness to God correlate with your pursuit of a pure, undivided heart?
7. In prayer, examine your own heart. What desires in your heart compete against your desire for God? How are they dividing your affections away from God?
8. If you know your heart is not pure, how do you get there? See Psalm 119:9–10, 1 Corinthians 6:11, Colossians 3:1–17 & 2 Corinthians 7:1 for guidance.

CONTRIBUTE

9. In what tangible ways can we help each other pursue pure, undivided hearts? In your group, lay out a few specific strategies. (Think beyond merely sexual purity. Include things such as divided affections, lust for power, living dishonestly, losing our first love, pride, idolatry, greed, gossip and slander.)
10. After you’ve discussed #9, think about the effects this has on the people in your life. How will your choices impact your world? What will people notice about you? How does this demonstrate Christ to others? How does it display the power of Christ at work?