

The Heart of Jesus Pr.Victor Barreira

Jesus is depicted in Isaiah 53:2 as “*no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.*” Movies usually depict Jesus as handsome and attractive. But it was His wisdom, His awesome display of God’s power, and His heart that attracted many to Himself.

The Rock

- Like the rock God used for water to come out to quench Israel’s thirst, He uses the wilderness to strike our hardness to release Jesus’ living water out of our hearts.
- Because Moses ‘struck’ the rock instead of speaking to the rock, he didn’t get to go in to the promise land. Our ‘irritations’ of life can represent manifesting works of the flesh, the blockage for us to go further with God in His ultimate plan for us, to disciple and lead others.
- God is more interested in what He can do *thru* as than *for* us.
- A hardened heart represents stubbornness...something immovable.

Let’s get the heart pumping. What you’ll sense thru this exercise is this ‘wall’ and ‘release.’

This is what a hard heart sounds like in everyday life --

1. Why should I apologize? I didn't do anything wrong.
2. Who are you to tell me what to do?
3. I know what I'm doing is wrong, but God will forgive me.
4. That's your problem.
5. I will never forgive him/her as long as I live.
6. Who cares?
7. I just want to live my life the way I want to.
8. I have to look out for me.
9. I don't care if the whole world is against me -- I know I'm right.

By contrast, here is what a soft heart sounds like in everyday life – you will sense a softening as you hear these:

1. I'm sorry.
2. I forgive you.
3. Teach me.
4. I have alot to learn, so much room to grow.
5. How can I help you?
6. We may not always agree, but I will always love you.
7. Where can I serve?
8. Lord, show me where my thoughts of you are inadequate and shallow.
9. Help me overcome my blind spots.

Conclusion: When we are honest with our heart before God, it allows Him to remove the barriers in our heart and let His life-giving water flow freely thru us and to others.

Prayer: Father, show me areas where my heart may be hardened to your will. As you do, lead me to the cross that I may be healed and receive forgiveness, and a new nature...Christ’s nature...the heart of Jesus. Amen.