

***LENTEN DAILY READER 2014:
The Heart in the Psalms and the New Testament: An Introduction***

by Fr. John

I have long been intrigued with the affirmation that Christians should acquire a “biblical mind.” Yet, though I’ve been intrigued I also have not really known how to do that, how to acquire such a mind that allows us not just to interpret passages of Scripture in isolation as we read or hear them, but how to interpret them in the context of other Scripture passages: how to think intuitively or “naturally” about the Scriptures.

So over the past few years I have considered how to encourage both you and me to learn how to read the Scriptures in broader ways. We began with the *E100 Plan* —blasting through the whole Bible with 100 “essential” passages. Last Great Lent we worked through particular readings from the Prophecy of Isaiah and the Epistle to the Hebrews—both of which are particularly assigned by the Orthodox Church for Lenten reflection (historically, also meant as being important for the preparation of catechumens, for those who would be entering the Church through Baptism).

This year we are going to consider a particular word or concept, the “heart,” and try to acquire supporting vocabulary. I began by assembling all references to the “heart” in the entire Bible — which turned out to be over 900 verses, and then reducing those to what are key definitions or summaries as found in the Psalms and throughout the New Testament. There are 200 verses in all, 5 assigned for each of the 40 days of Great Lent.

I’ve attached as Word and PDF files all of the readings and there are hard copies by the candlestand. I will also send out each day’s reading the night before by email. I encourage you to keep a log, journal, or notes on the various ways and images that are used within these passages. They will form the basis for sermons, emails, and articles in *Crossroads* throughout Great Lent. The readings will start on the official first day of Great Lent: Monday March 3 and end on Friday April 11 (the eve of Lazarus Saturday).

In addition, we will supplement our Biblical foundation with passages from:

- 1) Archimandrite Zacharias, *The Hidden Man of the Heart: The Cultivation of the Heart in Orthodox Christian Anthropology*
- 2) Pseudo-Macarius, “*The Fifty Spiritual Homilies*”
- 3) The writings of Metropolitan Kallistos Ware

In fact, let’s allow Metropolitan Kallistos to introduce us to this exploration. It comes from his “Preface” to *Pseudo-Macarius: The Fifty Spiritual Homilies*, (Paulist Press, 1992), xv-xvii.

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The heart designates the human person as a whole, regarded as a spiritual subject. It is the ground or core of our being, the “inner self” (Eph. 3:16-17) — what in Zen Buddhism is termed “the center of the lotus.” It is at the same time the place where we come face to face with God, where the grace of the Spirit is active (Roman 8:27; Gal 4:6). Once the heart is understood in this comprehensive way, it is surprising how many scriptural texts acquire sharper significance. When, for instance, it is said, “The heart is deep” (Ps 64:6) — a key text in Orthodox spirituality — the meaning is that the human person as a whole is a profound mystery. The divine appeal, “My child, give me your heart” (Proverbs 23:26), affirms that we are to entrust to God our entire being. By the same token, when the Hesychasts of the Christian East (spiritual fathers) speak about “prayer of the heart,” they have in mind prayer of the total person—spirit, soul, and body.

Macarius, for his part clearly understands the heart in this all-embracing biblical sense:

The heart itself is but a small vessel, yet dragons are there, and there are also lions; there are poisonous beasts and all the treasures of evil. There also are rough and uneven roads; there are precipices. But there too is God, the angels, the life and the Kingdom, the light and the apostles, the heavenly cities and the treasures of grace—all things are there.

“There are infinite depths to the human heart,” Macarius states elsewhere. While denoting the physical organ located in our chest, it is clearly a symbol of much more than this, existing as it does as a whole series of interconnected levels:

1. The heart is first of all the central and controlling element in our physical structure: “The heart directs and governs all the other organs of the body.” When the heart ceases to function, bodily death ensues.
2. The heart is likewise the place in which the intellect is situated: “For there, in the heart, the mind (*nous*) abides as well as all the thoughts of the soul and all its hopes.” In Macarius’s symbolic scheme, there is no dichotomy between head and heart: we think with our heart.
3. The heart includes what we today designate as “the unconscious,” whether personal or collective.
4. As moral center, the heart is the point where grace and sin are experienced: “There is found the office of justice and of injustice. There is death and there is life.”
5. The heart is in this way also the point of self-transcendence, where we encounter God. It is the “palace of Christ,” where he “sets up his kingdom.”

Through the heart, then, divine grace permeates our entire personhood, not only transforming the soul but penetrating also “throughout all parts of the body.” The heart is the symbol of our personal unity, the center where the physical and non-material, the created and the uncreated converge. It is the point of meeting:

between body and soul; / between the unconscious and the conscious;
between human freedom and divine grace.

FORTY DAYS –FORTY READINGS: ON THE HEART

FROM THE PSALMS

DAY 1: MONDAY MARCH 3

1. [Psalm 4:4](#)

Be angry, and do not sin. Meditate within your **heart** on your bed, and be still.

2. [Psalm 7:9](#)

Oh, let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end, but establish the just; For the righteous God tests the **hearts** and minds.

3. [Psalm 9:1](#)

I will praise *You*, O Lord, with my whole **heart**; I will tell of all Your marvelous works.

4. [Psalm 10:17](#)

Lord, You have heard the desire of the humble; You will prepare their **heart**; You will cause Your ear to hear.

5. [Psalm 12:2](#)

They speak idly everyone with his neighbor; *With* flattering lips *and* a double **heart** they speak.

DAY 2: TUESDAY MARCH 4

6. [Psalm 13:5](#)

But I have trusted in Your mercy; My **heart** shall rejoice in Your salvation.

7. [Psalm 14:1](#)

The fool has said in his **heart**, “*There is no God.*” They are corrupt, They have done abominable works, There is none who does good.

8. [Psalm 15:2](#)

He who walks uprightly, And works righteousness, And speaks the truth in his **heart**;

9. [Psalm 16:7](#)

I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel; My **heart** also instructs me in the night seasons.

10. [Psalm 17:3](#)

You have tested my **heart**; You have visited *me* in the night; You have tried me and have found nothing; I have purposed that my mouth shall not transgress.

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY MARCH 5

11. [Psalm 17:10](#)

They have closed up their fat *hearts*; With their mouths they speak proudly.

12. [Psalm 19:14](#)

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my **heart**, Be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.

13. [Psalm 20:4](#)

May He grant you according to your **heart's desire**, And fulfill all your purpose.

14. [Psalm 21:2](#)

You have given him his **heart's desire**, And have not withheld the request of his lips.

15. [Psalm 22:14](#)

I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint; My **heart** is like wax; It has melted within Me.

DAY 4: THURSDAY MARCH 6

16. [Psalm 22:26](#)

The poor shall eat and be satisfied; Those who seek Him will praise the Lord. Let your **heart** live forever!

17. [Psalm 24:4](#)

He who has clean hands and a pure **heart**, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully.

18. [Psalm 25:17](#)

The troubles of my **heart** have enlarged; Bring me out of my distresses!

19. [Psalm 26:2](#)

Examine me, O Lord, and prove me; Try my mind and my **heart**.

20. [Psalm 27:3](#)

Though an army may encamp against me, My **heart** shall not fear; Though war may rise against me, In this I *will be* confident.

DAY 5: FRIDAY MARCH 7

21. [Psalm 27:8](#)

When You said, “Seek My face,” My **heart** said to You, “Your face, Lord, I will seek.”

22. [Psalm 27:13](#)

*I would have lost **heart***, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the Lord In the land of the living.

23. [Psalm 27:14](#)

Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your **heart**; Wait, I say, on the Lord!

24. [Psalm 28:3](#)

Do not take me away with the wicked And with the workers of iniquity, Who speak peace to their neighbors, But evil *is* in their **hearts**.

25. [Psalm 28:7](#)

The Lord *is* my strength and my shield; My **heart** trusted in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my **heart** greatly rejoices, And with my song I will praise Him.

DAY 6: SATURDAY MARCH 8

26. [Psalm 31:24](#)

Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your **heart**, All you who hope in the Lord.

27. [Psalm 32:11](#)

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous; And shout for joy, all *you* upright in **heart!**

28. [Psalm 33:11](#)

The counsel of the Lord stands forever, The plans of His **heart** to all generations.

29. [Psalm 33:15](#)

He fashions their **hearts** individually; He considers all their works.

30. [Psalm 33:21](#)

For our **heart** shall rejoice in Him, Because we have trusted in His holy name.

DAY 7: SUNDAY MARCH 9

31. [Psalm 34:18](#)

The Lord *is* near to those who have a broken **heart**, And saves such as have a contrite spirit.

32. [Psalm 35:13](#)

But as for me, when they were sick, My clothing *was* sackcloth; I humbled myself with fasting;
And my prayer would return to my own **heart**.

33. [Psalm 37:4](#)

Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your **heart**.

34. [Psalm 37:15](#)

Their sword shall enter their own **heart**, And their bows shall be broken.

35. [Psalm 37:31](#)

The law of his God *is* in his **heart**; None of his steps shall slide.

DAY 8: MONDAY MARCH 10

36. [Psalm 38:8](#)

I am feeble and severely broken; I groan because of the turmoil of my **heart**.

37. [Psalm 38:10](#)

My **heart** pants, my strength fails me; As for the light of my eyes, it also has gone from me.

38. [Psalm 39:3](#)

My **heart** was hot within me; While I was musing, the fire burned. *Then* I spoke with my tongue:

39. [Psalm 40:8](#)

I delight to do Your will, O my God, And Your law *is* within my **heart**.”

40. [Psalm 40:10](#)

I have not hidden Your righteousness within my **heart**; I have declared Your faithfulness and Your salvation; I have not concealed Your lovingkindness and Your truth From the great assembly.

DAY 9: TUESDAY MARCH 11

41. [Psalm 40:12](#)

For innumerable evils have surrounded me; My iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not able to look up; They are more than the hairs of my head; Therefore my **heart** fails me.

42. [Psalm 44:18](#)

Our **heart** has not turned back, Nor have our steps departed from Your way;

43. [Psalm 44:21](#)

Would not God search this out? For He knows the secrets of the **heart**.

44. [Psalm 45:1](#)

My **heart** is overflowing with a good theme; I recite my composition concerning the King; My tongue *is* the pen of a ready writer.

45. [Psalm 49:3](#)

My mouth shall speak wisdom, And the meditation of my **heart** *shall give* understanding.

DAY 10: WEDNESDAY MARCH 12

46. [Psalm 51:10](#)

Create in me a clean **heart**, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me.

47. [Psalm 51:17](#)

The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite **heart**— These, O God, You will not despise.

48. [Psalm 55:4](#)

My **heart** is severely pained within me, And the terrors of death have fallen upon me.

49. [Psalm 55:21](#)

The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, But war *was* in his **heart**; His words were softer than oil, Yet they *were* drawn swords.

50. [Psalm 57:7](#)

My **heart** is steadfast, O God, my **heart** is steadfast; I will sing and give praise.

DAY 11: THURSDAY MARCH 13

51. [Psalm 61:2](#)

From the end of the earth I will cry to You, When my **heart** is overwhelmed; Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

52. [Psalm 62:8](#)

Trust in Him at all times, you people; Pour out your **heart** before Him; God *is* a refuge for us.

53. [Psalm 62:10](#)

Do not trust in oppression, Nor vainly hope in robbery; If riches increase, Do not set *your heart* on them.

54. [Psalm 64:6](#)

They devise iniquities: “We have perfected a shrewd scheme.” Both the inward thought and the **heart** of man are deep.

55. [Psalm 64:10](#)

The righteous shall be glad in the Lord, and trust in Him. And all the upright in **heart** shall glory.

DAY 12: FRIDAY MARCH 14

56. [Psalm 69:20](#)

Reproach has broken my **heart**, And I am full of heaviness; I looked *for someone* to take pity, but *there was* none; And for comforters, but I found none.

57. [Psalm 69:32](#)

The humble shall see *this and* be glad; And you who seek God, your **hearts** shall live.

58. [Psalm 73:1](#)

Truly God *is* good to Israel, To such as are pure in **heart**.

59. [Psalm 73:7](#)

Their eyes bulge with abundance; They have more than **heart** could wish.

60. [Psalm 73:21](#)

Thus my **heart** was grieved, And I was vexed in my mind.

DAY 13: SATURDAY MARCH 15

61. [Psalm 73:26](#)

My flesh and my **heart** fail; *But* God *is* the strength of my **heart** and my portion forever.

62. [Psalm 77:6](#)

I call to remembrance my song in the night; I meditate within my **heart**, And my spirit makes diligent search.

63. [Psalm 78:8](#)

And may not be like their fathers, A stubborn and rebellious generation, A generation *that* did not set its **heart** aright, And whose spirit was not faithful to God.

64. [Psalm 78:18](#)

And they tested God in their **heart**, by asking for the food of their fancy.

65. [Psalm 78:37](#)

For their **heart** was not steadfast with Him, Nor were they faithful in His covenant.

DAY 14: SUNDAY MARCH 16

66. [Psalm 78:72](#)

So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his **heart**, And guided them by the skillfulness of his hands.

67. [Psalm 81:12](#)

So I gave them over to their own stubborn **heart**, To walk in their own counsels.

68. [Psalm 84:2](#)

My soul longs, yes, even faints For the courts of the Lord; My **heart** and my flesh cry out for the living God.

69. [Psalm 84:5](#)

Blessed *is* the man whose strength *is* in You, Whose **heart** *is* set on pilgrimage.

70. [Psalm 86:11](#)

Teach me Your way, O Lord; I will walk in Your truth; Unite my **heart** to fear Your name.

DAY 15: MONDAY MARCH 17

71. [Psalm 86:12](#)

I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my **heart**, And I will glorify Your name forevermore.

72. [Psalm 90:12](#)

So teach *us* to number our days, That we may gain a **heart** of wisdom.

73. [Psalm 94:15](#)

But judgment will return to righteousness, And all the upright in **heart** will follow it.

74. [Psalm 95:8](#)

“Do not harden your **hearts**, as in the rebellion, As *in* the day of trial in the wilderness,

75. [Psalm 95:10](#)

For forty years I was grieved with *that* generation, And said, 'It is a people who go astray in their **hearts**, And they do not know My ways.'

DAY 16: TUESDAY MARCH 18

76. [Psalm 97:11](#)

Light is sown for the righteous, And gladness for the upright in **heart**.

77. [Psalm 101:5](#)

Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor, Him I will destroy; The one who has a haughty look and a proud **heart**, Him I will not endure.

78. [Psalm 102:4](#)

My **heart** is stricken and withered like grass, So that I forget to eat my bread.

79. [Psalm 104:15](#)

And wine *that* makes glad the **heart** of man, Oil to make *his* face shine, And bread *which* strengthens man's **heart**.

80. [Psalm 105:3](#)

Glory in His holy name; Let the **hearts** of those rejoice who seek the Lord!

DAY 17: WEDNESDAY MARCH 19

81. [Psalm 109:22](#)

For I *am* poor and needy, And my **heart** is wounded within me.

82. [Psalm 111:1](#)

Praise the Lord! I will praise the Lord with *my* whole **heart**, In the assembly of the upright and *in* the congregation.

83. [Psalm 112:7](#)

He will not be afraid of evil tidings; His **heart** is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

84. [Psalm 112:8](#)

His **heart** *is* established; He will not be afraid, Until he sees *his desire* upon his enemies.

85. [Psalm 119:2](#)

Blessed *are* those who keep His testimonies, Who seek Him with the whole **heart**!

DAY 18: THURSDAY MARCH 20

86. [Psalm 119:10](#)

With my whole **heart** I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!

87. [Psalm 119:11](#)

Your word I have hidden in my **heart**, That I might not sin against You.

88. [Psalm 119:32](#)

I will run the course of Your commandments, For You shall enlarge my **heart**.

89. [Psalm 119:34](#)

Give me understanding, and I shall keep Your law; Indeed, I shall observe it with *my* whole **heart**.

90. [Psalm 119:36](#)

Incline my **heart** to Your testimonies, And not to covetousness.

DAY 19: FRIDAY MARCH 21

91. [Psalm 119:58](#)

I entreated Your favor with *my* whole **heart**; Be merciful to me according to Your word.

92. [Psalm 119:69](#)

The proud have forged a lie against me, *But* I will keep Your precepts with *my* whole **heart**.

93. [Psalm 119:70](#)

Their **heart** is as fat as grease, *But* I delight in Your law.

94. [Psalm 119:111](#)

Your testimonies I have taken as a heritage forever, For they *are* the rejoicing of my **heart**.

95. [Psalm 119:112](#)

I have inclined my **heart** to perform Your statutes Forever, to the very end.

DAY 20: SATURDAY MARCH 22

96. [Psalm 119:32](#)

I will run the course of Your commandments, For You shall enlarge my **heart**.

97. [Psalm 119:145](#)

I cry out with *my* whole **heart**; Hear me, O Lord! I will keep Your statutes.

98. [Psalm 119:161](#)

Princes persecute me without a cause, But my **heart** stands in awe of Your word.

99. [Psalm 139:23](#)

Search me, O God, and know my **heart**; Try me, and know my anxieties;

100. [Psalm 141:4](#)

Do not incline my **heart** to any evil thing, To practice wicked works With men who work iniquity; And do not let me eat of their delicacies.

From the New Testament

DAY 21: SUNDAY MARCH 23

101. [Matthew 5:8](#)

Blessed *are* the pure in **heart**, For they shall see God.

102. [Matthew 5:28](#)

But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his **heart**.

103. [Matthew 6:21](#)

For where your treasure is, there your **heart** will be also.

104. [Matthew 9:4](#)

But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, “Why do you think evil in your **hearts**?

105. [Matthew 11:29](#)

Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in **heart**, and you will find rest for your souls.

DAY 22: MONDAY MARCH 24

106. [Matthew 12:34](#)

Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the **heart** the mouth speaks.

107. [Matthew 12:35](#)

A good man out of the good treasure of his **heart** brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.

108. [Matthew 13:15](#)

For the **hearts** of this people have grown dull. *Their* ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with *their* eyes and hear with *their* ears, Lest they should understand with *their* **hearts** and turn, So that I should heal them.’

109. [Matthew 13:19](#)

When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand *it*, then the wicked *one* comes and snatches away what was sown in his **heart**. This is he who received seed by the wayside.

110. [Matthew 15:8](#)

‘These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with *their* lips, But their **heart** is far from Me.

DAY 23: TUESDAY MARCH 25

111. [Matthew 15:18-19](#)

But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the **heart**, and they defile a man. For out of the **heart** proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.

112. [Matthew 18:35](#)

“So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his **heart**, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”

113. [Mark 3:5](#)

And when He had looked around at them with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their **hearts**, He said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” And he stretched *it* out, and his hand was restored as whole as the other.

114. [Mark 6:52](#)

For they had not understood about the loaves, because their **heart** was hardened.

115. [Mark 7:6](#)

He answered and said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: ‘This people honors Me with *their* lips, But their **heart** is far from Me.

DAY 24: WEDNESDAY MARCH 26

116. [Mark 11:23](#)

For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his **heart**, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.

117. [Mark 12:33](#)

And to love Him with all the **heart**, with all the understanding, with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love one’s neighbor as oneself, is more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

118. [Mark 16:14](#)

[*The Great Commission*] Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of **heart**, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen.

119. [Luke 1:17](#)

He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, ‘to turn the **hearts** of the fathers to the children,’ and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

120. [Luke 1:51](#)

He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered *the* proud in the imagination of their **hearts**.

25. THURSDAY MARCH 27

121. [Luke 1:66](#)

And all those who heard *them* kept *them* in their **hearts**, saying, “What kind of child will this be?” And the hand of the Lord was with him.

122. [Luke 2:19](#)

But Mary kept all these things and pondered *them* in her **heart**.

123. [Luke 2:35](#)

(yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many **hearts** may be revealed.”

124. [Luke 2:51](#)

[*Jesus Advances in Wisdom and Favor*] Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her **heart**.

125. [Luke 6:45](#)

A good man out of the good treasure of his **heart** brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his **heart** brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the **heart** his mouth speaks.

DAY 26. FRIDAY MARCH 28

126. [Luke 8:12](#)

Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their **hearts**, lest they should believe and be saved.

127. [Luke 8:15](#)

But the ones *that* fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good **heart**, keep *it* and bear fruit with patience.

128. [Luke 10:27](#)

So he answered and said, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your **heart**, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,’ and ‘your neighbor as yourself.’ ”

129. [Luke 16:15](#)

And He said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your **hearts**. For what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God.

130. [Luke 18:1](#)

[*The Parable of the Persistent Widow*] Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose **heart**,

DAY 27. SATURDAY MARCH 29

131. [Luke 21:14](#)

Therefore settle *it* in your **hearts** not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer;

132. [Luke 21:26](#)

men’s **hearts** failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

133.. [Luke 21:34](#)

[*The Importance of Watching*] “But take heed to yourselves, lest your **hearts** be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly.

134. [Luke 24:25](#)

Then He said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of **heart** to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!

135. [Luke 24:32](#)

And they said to one another, “Did not our **heart** burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?”

DAY 28. SUNDAY MARCH 30

136. [John 12:40](#)

“He has blinded their eyes and hardened their **hearts**, Lest they should see with *their* eyes, Lest they should understand with *their* **hearts** and turn, So that I should heal them.”

137. [John 13:2](#)

And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the **heart** of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s *son*, to betray Him,

138. [John 14:27](#)

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your **heart** be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

139. [John 16:6](#)

But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your **heart**.

140. [John 16:22](#)

Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your **heart** will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you.

DAY 29: MONDAY MARCH 31

141. [Acts 2:46](#)

So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of **heart**,

142. [Acts 4:32](#)

[*Sharing in All Things*] Now the multitude of those who believed were of one **heart** and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common.

143. [Acts 5:3](#)

But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your **heart** to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back *part* of the price of the land for yourself?

144. [Acts 7:51](#)

[*Israel Resists the Holy Spirit*] “You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in **heart** and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers *did*, so *do* you.

145. [Acts 8:21](#)

You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your **heart** is not right in the sight of God.

DAY 30: TUESDAY APRIL 1

146. [Acts 8:22](#)

Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your **heart** may be forgiven you.

147. [Acts 8:36-37](#)

Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the [Ethiopian] eunuch said, “See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?” Then Philip said, “If you believe with all your **heart**, you may.” And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”

148. [Acts 13:22](#)

And when He had removed him, He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, ‘I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own **heart**, who will do all My will.’

149. [Acts 15:8](#)

So God, who knows the **heart**, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as *He did* to us,

150. [Acts 28:27](#)

For the **hearts** of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their **hearts** and turn, So that I should heal them.”

DAY 31: WEDNESDAY APRIL 2

151. [Romans 1:21](#)

because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish **hearts** were darkened.

152. [Romans 1:24](#)

Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their **hearts**, to dishonor their bodies among themselves,

153. [Romans 2:5](#)

But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent **heart** you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God,

154. [Romans 2:15](#)

who show the work of the law written in their **hearts**, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves *their* thoughts accusing or else excusing *them*)

155. [Romans 2:29](#)

but *he is* a Jew who *is one* inwardly; and circumcision *is that* of the **heart**, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise *is* not from men but from God.

DAY 32: THURSDAY APRIL 3

156. [Romans 5:5](#)

Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our **hearts** by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

157. [Romans 8:27](#)

Now He who searches the **hearts** knows what the mind of the Spirit *is*, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

158. [Romans 10:9](#)

[If] you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your **heart** that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

159. [Romans 10:10](#)

For with the **heart** one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

160. [1 Corinthians 2:9](#)

But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the **heart** of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”

DAY 33: FRIDAY APRIL 4

161. [1 Corinthians 4:5](#)

Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the **hearts**. Then each one's praise will come from God.

162. [2 Corinthians 1:22](#)

who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our **hearts** as a guarantee.

163. [2 Corinthians 3:2](#)

You are our epistle written in our **hearts**, known and read by all men;

164. [2 Corinthians 3:3](#)

clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the **heart**.

165. [2 Corinthians 3:15](#)

But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their **heart**.

DAY 34: SATURDAY APRIL 5

166. [2 Corinthians 4:6](#)

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our **hearts** to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

167. [2 Corinthians 4:16](#)

[*Seeing the Invisible*] Therefore we do not lose **heart**. Even though our outward *man* is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.

168. [2 Corinthians 6:11](#)

[*Be Holy*] O Corinthians! We have spoken openly to you, our **heart** is wide open.

169. [2 Corinthians 9:7](#)

So let each one give as he purposes in his **heart**, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

170. [Galatians 4:6](#)

And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your **hearts**, crying out, “Abba, Father!”

DAY 35: SUNDAY APRIL 6

171. [Galatians 6:9](#)

And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose **heart**.

172. [Ephesians 3:14-19](#)

14 For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **[a]** **15** from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, **16** that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, **17** that Christ may dwell in your **hearts** through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, **18** be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height —**19** to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

173. [Ephesians 4:18](#)

having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their **heart**;

174. [Ephesians 5:19](#)

speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your **heart** to the Lord,

175. [Ephesians 6:6](#)

not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the **heart**,

DAY 36: MONDAY APRIL 7

176. [Philippians 4:7](#)

and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your **hearts** and minds through Christ Jesus.

177. [Colossians 2:2](#)

that their **hearts** may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ,

178. [Colossians 3:15](#)

And let the peace of God rule in your **hearts**, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.

179. [Colossians 3:16](#)

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your **hearts** to the Lord.

180. [1 Thessalonians 2:4](#)

But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our **hearts**.

DAY 37: TUESDAY APRIL 8

181. [2 Thessalonians 2:17](#)

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father ...comfort your **hearts** and establish you in every good word and work.

182. [2 Thessalonians 3:5](#)

Now may the Lord direct your **hearts** into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.

183. [1 Timothy 1:5](#)

Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure **heart**, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith,

184. [2 Timothy 2:22](#)

Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure **heart**.

185. [Hebrews 3:8](#)

Do not harden your **hearts** as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness,

DAY 38: WEDNESDAY APRIL 9

186. [Hebrews 3:10](#)

Therefore I was angry with that generation, And said, ‘They always go astray in *their heart*, And they have not known My ways.’

187. [Hebrews 4:12](#)

For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the **heart**.

188. [Hebrews 8:10](#)

For this *is* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their **hearts**; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

189. [Hebrews 10:22](#)

let us draw near with a true **heart** in full assurance of faith, having our **hearts** sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

190. [Hebrews 13:9](#)

Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For *it is* good that the **heart** be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them.

DAY 39: THURSDAY APRIL 10

191. [James 1:26](#)

If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own **heart**, this one’s religion *is* useless.

192. [James 3:14](#)

But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your **hearts**, do not boast and lie against the truth.

193. [James 4:8](#)

Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *you* sinners; and purify *your hearts*, *you* double-minded.

194. [James 5:5](#)

You have lived on the earth in pleasure and luxury; you have fattened your **hearts** as in a day of slaughter.

195. [James 5:8](#)

You also be patient. Establish your **hearts**, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

DAY 40: FRIDAY APRIL 11

196. [1 Peter 1:22](#)

[*The Enduring Word*] Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure **heart**,

197. [1 Peter 3:4](#)

let it be the hidden person of the **heart**, with the incorruptible *beauty* of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God.

198. [1 Peter 3:15](#)

But sanctify the Lord God in your **hearts**, and always *be* ready to *give* a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

199. [2 Peter 1:19](#)

And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your **hearts**;

200. [1 John 3:20](#)

For if our **heart** condemns us, God is greater than our **heart**, and knows all things.