

## Wholehearted

Sept. 17, 2006 @ VCC Pastor Kurt Heisey  
Colossians 3:23,24

### I. Introduction

#### A. Video "Wholehearted" (8 minutes)

1. Why is it important to do things with all your heart?
  2. Are there certain things you tend to do half-heartedly?
  3. How can you tell if someone is giving their best or not?
  4. (Intro. video): The Eagles have not had a winning season in six years. AS the season starts, the Eagles have lost their first three games as a result of their half-heartedness. Defensive captain, Brock Kelley is challenged to give his best. (PLAY VIDEO)
  5. Why don't we see more people put their whole hearts into their endeavors?
    - a) **Mal. 1:6-14**, what does God think about half-heartedness?
- B. What is your most prized possession in the world?  
C. How hard would it be to give it up?  
D. Do you think you could give it up in order to worship Jesus?

### II. Sacrifice Illustrated

#### A. **Genesis 22:1- -- Abraham** offered Isaac to God

1. 22:2 - Your only son, whom you love... God was requiring all from Abraham
2. 22:3 - There was no hesitation from Abraham
3. 22:10 - There was nothing Abraham would withhold from God.
4. 22:16,17 - because of His wholehearted worship, God poured everything out to Abraham.

#### B. **Jehu** -

1. **2 Ki 10:16,17,28**- He was very zealous in one area, but not in others. He was wholehearted in destroying worship of Baal, but...
2. **2 Kings 10:29-31** - He did not turn from the worship of the golden calves at Bethel and Dan, and was not careful to keep the law of the Lord.. with all his heart.
3. **2 Kings 10:32** - God began to reduce the size of Israel and blessing only went to the 4th generation. David had a blessing on every generation to follow forever because he was wholehearted.

#### C. **John 12:1-8 - Mary** pouring out her perfume a few days before Jesus was crucified.

1. Mary's wholehearted devotion led to her giving that which was most valuable to her. It was a prized possession worth a year's wages (**Mark 14:3-5**).
  - a) Mary could have placed a few drops on Jesus, but she chose to break the jar and completely pour every last drop on His feet., then wiped his feet with her hair.
2. The entire house was filled with the fragrance and everyone took notice.
  - a) Others were astonished at her sacrifice and surprised. Some even said, she gave too much!
  - b) Maybe her passion and devotion made them look bad.
  - c) Everything she had was expended on Jesus in honor of Him. She saved nothing for later to use on herself.
3. **1 Cor. 11:15** - A woman's hair brings her glory.
  - a) Mary took what would bring her glory and used it in worship to bring Him glory. Because of her wholeheartedness and worship, Jesus said her story would be told around the world (**Mark 14:9**).
  - b) How would Jesus describe your worship ?
    - (1) Sacrificial? loving? Wholehearted? Worth talking about to others? Beautiful ?

- D. "**Whatever you do**, work at it with all your heart, as **working** for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are **servicing**." **Colossians 3:23, 24**, NIV.

### III. Wholeheartedness Instructed

- A. "But if from there you **seek** the LORD your God, you will find him if you look for him with all your heart and with all your soul." Deuteronomy 4:29, NIV.

- B. "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. **Love** the LORD your God **with all your heart** and with all your soul and with all your strength." Deuteronomy 6:4, 5, NIV.
- C. "And now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to **serve** the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?" Deuteronomy 10:12, 13, NIV. Deut 13:3
- D. "When all these blessings and curses I have set before you come upon you and you take them to heart wherever the LORD your God disperses you among the nations, and when you and your children return to the LORD your God and **obey** him with all your heart and with all your soul according to everything I command you today," Deuteronomy 30:1, 2, NIV.
- E. "**Trust** in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding." Proverbs 3:5, KJV.
- F. "You will **seek** me and find me when you **seek** me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:13, NIV.
- G. ""Even now," declares the LORD, "**return** to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning."" Joel 2:12, NIV.
- H. "Sing, O Daughter of Zion; shout aloud, O Israel! Be glad and **rejoice** with all your heart, O Daughter of Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away your punishment, he has turned back your enemy. The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm." Zephaniah 3:14, 15, NIV.

#### IV. Closing

- A. Have you been giving Jesus your first and best.. or your leftovers
  - 1. Prov. 3:9,10
  - 2. What are some areas of your life that have lacked passion?
- B. How did Mary's passion and influence influence others
  - 1. Mary
  - 2. Brock in video
- C. What steps can you take to live more wholeheartedly?