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Dedication:

To Patti's father, Lyle Hudson, a man of prayer and faith, who was called home before this book was completed, and her mother, Claire, a woman clothed with grace and dignity, this book is lovingly dedicated.

The Pure in Heart Shall See God 1

It is the God Who is “all in all” Who said that the pure in heart would see Him. The men who did see Him prayed repeatedly that God would “open their eyes” that they might behold Him, and as He answered their prayers, they saw Him all around them, in the chariots of fire (II Kings 6:17) and in the opened skies (Rev. 4:1,2). To see God is one of the choicest provisions of life; to live in His continual presence is the abundant life. To live without seeing Him in all of life reduces life to mere existence, and a frustrating one at that. All one sees then is the influence of the prince of the power of the air (satan), and one does not see the Lord of Lords, the King of Kings, the Almighty God, revealing His glory in all His creation. One does not see that Christ is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature (Heb. 1:3), and that the purpose of life is to be in Him in all the glorious ways He presents Himself within us and around us (Phil. 3:9).

“For since the creation of the world His **invisible attributes**, His **eternal power** and **divine nature**, have **been clearly seen**, being understood through what had been made....” (Rom. 1:20)

We have grown up with a false view of life, thinking that “matter” is one thing and that “spirit” is set apart,

over opposite it. Thus in order to see God, we must turn our eyes away from “matter” and “substance” and look into the spirit world to find God. This has only been partially true. It is true that God can be found in the unseen, eternal world (II Cor. 4:18), but it is also true that His Spirit is the permeating substance of all matter.

“Christ is all and in all....” (Col. 3:11)

“Him Who fills all in all....” (Eph. 1:23)

“All things have been created by Him and for Him...And in Him all things hold together” (Col. 1:16,17). Thus, “matter” is not dead, but alive with the indwelling Spirit of Christ. It flows with energy, the energy of God, and because of this, we must change our view of the reality of life. Life is not things, objects, events and experiences. **JESUS CHRIST IS LIFE!! HE** is the Center of every molecule (Col. 1:17). **HE** is working all things after the counsel of His will (Eph. 1:11). **HE** is granting ideas, faith and power (I Cor. 12:1-7). **HE** is granting righteousness, sanctification and hope (I Cor. 1:30). It is **IN HIM** that we live and move and have our being (Acts 17:28).

And so we see that “the summing up of all things is in Christ” (Eph. 1:10). Life is no longer fragmented.

2 Counseled by God

Every part of every area of our lives is in Him, and how blessed are the pure in heart because they see HIM IN EVERYTHING. All of life can begin to take on meaning and have shape, because it all flows from one divine center. And that center is Jesus.

Now if the center of all of life, and all of history, and all of this world is Jesus, can we go one step further and ask, what is the center of Jesus? I believe it can be summed up in one word—LOVE. God is love (I Jn. 4:8). Thus **THE ESSENCE OF LIFE IS LOVE!!** *Agape*, self-giving love.

I believe *agape* love is the center of this universe and the center of life, and that the abundant life that Jesus talked about is only realized in the flow of divine love from God, through us, to others. Love is the most positive, dynamic, life-transforming, healing, purpose-giving force in this universe. It is the fabric of which the universe was made. One who flows on its tide will experience life in its fullest. To live on the “wave of the Spirit” is to abide in the flow of love, or to live in unity and harmony with all of life: my self (body, soul and spirit), my circumstances (both “good” and “bad”) and my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Thus, my one focus is to abide constantly in His divine love (Jn. 15:9) and my one commandment is to love (Jn. 15:12). Please pause and consider this for a moment before going on.

A final note: *Agape* love is found only in God and in those people whom God fills. For one to flow with *agape* love one must open himself to God, asking and receiving His divine love and thus becoming one with Him (I Jn. 4:12,13). Only then is the heart purified. Only then does life have meaning. There is no lasting meaning in life outside of loving and being loved. So let us set ourselves about this task of giving and receiving unconditional love, and let us see God and experience abundant life.

God Opens the Eyes with Revelation

As two disciples walked the Emmaus Road, life had lost all meaning and purpose because tragedy had struck (Lk. 24:13-35). Jesus had been crucified, evil had won, the healing love had ceased to flow. No longer could they see God. They were “separated

from Christ, having no hope, and without God in this world” (Eph. 2:12). Or were they? Maybe it was a misconception. Maybe it was a lie. Maybe it wasn’t a tragedy. Maybe God still ruled, maybe love still flowed, maybe Christ was closer than they had thought. Maybe they needed their eyes opened to the truth so that they might see God in all His glory, rather than see these events as catastrophe. Who opens the eyes of the blind? Who lets us see truth in the midst of deception? Only Jesus (Eph. 1:17,18).

We must learn to do what they did, to talk out our blindness with Jesus. We must allow Him to heal our hearts, which are slow to believe (Lk. 24:25), by explaining how suffering gives way to glory (Lk. 24:26), and showing through illumination of Scripture that God’s purposes are being fulfilled, even in the midst of this seeming tragedy (Lk. 24:27).

Finally, “our eyes are opened” and we see that God is still King of Kings, that love is still the central force in our suffering, and that God’s purposes are being fulfilled. We have “recognized **Him**” (Lk. 24:31).

As Jesus communes with us, granting us insight, we feel our hearts burning within us (Lk. 24:32). We are “seeing” revelation. Our hearts are excited, blazing again with faith, hope and love. His love replaces our fear, guilt and anger.

Only God can transform the heart. Only by coming to Him will this purifying ever take place. Thus we find ourselves at His footstool, communing with Him over and over, and from these conversations we find restoration for an unbelieving and self-pitying heart. To establish and maintain a pure heart I must enter regularly into communion with God. There is no other way. (For one seeking help in establishing clearer lines of communication with God, the manual *How to Hear God’s Voice*, by the same author, is recommended. It is a thoroughly practical course on discerning God’s voice.)

What Is the Heart?

The heart is comprised of the underlying attitudes, motivations and character traits of a person. (The

biblical support for this definition is laid out in *Sense Your Spirit* by the same author.) To have a pure heart one must have pure attitudes, motivations and character traits. Without these one is not able to see God. Examine the following diagram of the heart and the common things that contaminate it. We will look at each of them in detail in future chapters.

Dr. Cho says in his book *The Fourth Dimension* that the four great sins of the flesh are fear, guilt, anger and inferiority. We will show in future chapters how these sins can be replaced with four great experiences of the new covenant: faith, hope, love and identity in Christ. Fear, guilt, anger, faith, hope and love can **all** function as either attitudes, motivations or character traits. For example, one can have an attitude of fear, a motivation of fear, or a character trait of fear.

When filled with self or satan	The Heart	When filled with the Holy Spirit (I Cor. 13:13)
Fear	Underlying Attitude	Faith
Guilt	Underlying Motivation	Hope
Anger	Character Trait	Love
Inferiority, Sin-consciousness	End Product	Identity (in Christ), Righteousness-consciousness

Personal Application

1. Meditate on what the Bible says are the **results** of both a pure heart and a contaminated heart and complete the following.

Blessings of a Pure Heart

Results of a Contaminated Heart

_____	Prov. 14:14	_____
_____	Prov. 14:30	_____
_____	Prov. 15:13	_____
_____	Prov. 15:15	_____
_____	Prov. 15:28	_____
_____	Prov. 17:22	_____
_____	Ps. 24:3,4	_____
_____	Ps. 73:1,3	_____
_____	Ps. 73:21,22	_____
_____	I Jn. 3:21	_____

4 Counseled by God

2. Read Proverbs 4:23. Note the importance of the heart.

3. Read Matthew 12:34. Note the test for what is within your heart.

4. Read (a) Ezekiel 36:26,27 and (b) Hebrews 10:16. Note what God does to the heart at salvation.

5. Read (a) Colossians 3:12-14, (b) Luke 8:15 and (c) Acts 4:32. Note the kind of heart God wants Christians to put on.

a)

b)

c)

6. Read Psalms 139:23,24 and 19:14. Write them in your own words as a personal prayer.

7. Record what God wants to speak to you concerning the ideas discussed in this chapter.

(a) Explain Matthew 5:8

(b) God is everywhere

(c) God is love

(d) Importance of continued centering

(e) Experiencing divine disclosure ("Seeing" on the Emmaus Road)

(f) Defining a pure heart
