



LEADER PAGE |SERIES| Best Sermon Ever | WEEK 4 of 11 | Sermon date:
June 20, 2021

Discipleship Phrase: His heart, my hands.

Big Idea for Series: Jesus' heart for the kingdom is on full display.

Abiding *(grow as a disciple yourself)*

Spend time this week considering how your worldly desires might be creating potentially harmful appetites that don't truly reflect Jesus' heart for ourselves or for others. Desires are as natural as the appetites we have for them but it's ultimately what we do with those that end up putting our God on display and not ourselves. Consider your own appetites and desires. Spend time with the Lord seeking out the ones that bring glory to Him alone and to also determine which ones are more harmful than they are helpful.

Leading *(facilitate your group effectively)*

This week's sermon covers the desires of our heart and how we should reflect God's heart in our relationships with others. When leading the group discussion help members to focus on desires and motives. What appetites are they trying to feed and for what purpose? How are desires and motives affecting relationships or lack thereof? To reflect God's heart, you will seek His priorities and make them your own. Help members to identify desires and motives that have only temporary benefit. God's heart is for reconciliation and restoration with eternal outcomes. How much intimate time are members spending with God? As the group discovers what desires they should lay down, what also can they do that will help them see the world as God sees it?

Shepherding *(know, feed, lead, and protect the sheep)*

Pay close attention this week as your group members focus on wrestling with their earthly appetites; this could be a hard subject matter to share on. We only eat what we like (not speaking just in terms of food, but all earthly desires), and sometimes those earthly desires are not healthy. Remember, that you are not alone. If someone shares something that you feel is outside your scope of care, the Life Groups Team has resources to help you. Reach out to your Life Groups Pastor, if necessary, so that we can walk alongside you in shepherding your people.

Church Announcements *(be in the know & share with your group)*

- Have you ever struggled with your identity? Join Jen Shoutta for a 4-week movement and meditation series on claiming our identity in Christ. Click [here](#) to register!

REMEMBER: "Every group deserves a great leader."

LifeGroups

at Southeast



SERIES| Best Sermon Ever| TOPIC: Driving Desires | WEEK 4 of 11 |Sermon date: 6/20/21

Welcome/Introductions (*creating a relational environment starts here; be friendly & acknowledge everyone*)

Open in Prayer (*kickoff every group gathering with honoring the Lord*)

Ice Breaker, God Moments, or Highs & Lows (*choose one that is best for your group this week*)

Weekly Vision Checklist (*See Flipbook re: announcements, the “why”, goal, outreach, guidelines, & branching*)

Ask a Hook Question (*a thought-provoking question to get the group heading in the right direction*)

When you're really hungry, what food do you crave the most? Why is that so satisfying to you?

Recap the Message (*ask a **couple** people to share what stood out to them in this week's message*)

Scriptures References (*Read scriptures **directly from the Bible**—it carries its own authority*)

Matthew 5:21-48 (NIV)

Implications (*takeaways from the message*)

1. The Sermon on the Mount teaches us how to align God's heart with God's rules.
2. As residents of the Kingdom of God, we are called to reflect God's heart for all people.
3. The right thing done the wrong way becomes the wrong thing.
4. When the church keeps the rules but doesn't look any different than the world, we create damage in the hearts of people who desperately need to know how much Jesus loves them.

Discussion Questions (*going beyond the surface*)

1. Read Matthew 5:43-48. How does it sit with you and why? Also, how might this passage speak to your desires/appetites?

2. Our desire is to feed our appetites. However, unchecked desire can lead to potentially harmful appetites. What unchecked desire might be leading to some potentially harmful appetites in your life right now? How so?
3. How can you begin to view that desire differently, so that the appetite for it can begin to better reflect God's heart more accurately to those around you?
4. In feeding these appetites/desires, how might you be sacrificing what's *best*, for something simply *good* enough?
5. What's one thing you can start doing differently, with regards to this, to move towards God's best for you?

Prayer Requests *(record, share, and follow up throughout the week. Use the LEAD App or CCB if possible.)*

Closing Prayer *(ask openly for a volunteer, encourage your people to step outside of their comfort zone regularly)*

