

“Follow Lead Your Heart” - Grace Baptist Church - February 15, 2009, by Scott Plavnick

In many movies, from Star Wars to Disney to pop romance flicks, the main character comes to the big decision:

“Should I marry him?” “Will everything be OK?” “Should I marry Jack or his brother?”
“Should I take this job, despite the risk?”
A trusted friend asks the main character, “What does your heart say?”
“I don’t know what I should do,” is the reply.
“You have to follow your heart!”

The Heart in the Bible is the seat of the will, emotions, and thoughts. It is the centre of the person. It is the intangible part that makes you, you.

What does the Bible say about people’s hearts?

The Heart is wicked!

Genesis 6:5 The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time.

Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is more deceitful than anything else and desperately sick—who can understand it? (HCSB)

The Heart is Fickle

Psalms 95:10 For 40 years I was disgusted with that generation; I said, 'They are a people whose hearts go astray; they do not know My ways. '

Oft what seems so important to us now, will become a bore in weeks or months.

Deuteronomy 17:17 He [Israel's king] must not take many wives, or his heart will be led astray. He must not accumulate large amounts of silver and gold.

“Follow Your heart?” That’s stupid! (Foolish!)

Proverbs 28:26 He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, But whoever walks wisely will be delivered. (NKJV)

“Follow Your Heart” is just another version of “You can find what’s right for you within yourself.”

This comes from Humanism, which says that “Man is the measure of all things”, and from Eastern Religions, which says “There is a god inside of each of us.”

As Nate explained to a student last night, Christianity believes in a real God, outside ourselves. He therefore has a right to set an objective moral standard.

So rather than “Follow your heart”, “Lead Your Heart!”

Proverbs 4:23 Guard your heart above all else, for it is the source of life. (HCSB)

Colossians 3:15

And let the peace of the Messiah, to which you were also called in one body, control your hearts.

Choose what is Right, and Make your Heart Follow!

Over and over, the Bible commands us what to do with our heart:

Deuteronomy 6:5

Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

Joshua 24:23

"Then get rid of the foreign gods that are among you and offer your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel."

Numbers 15:39

These will serve as tassels for you to look at, so that you may remember all the LORD's commands and obey them and not become unfaithful by following your own heart and your own eyes.

Proverbs 6:25 Don't lust in your heart for her beauty or let her captivate you with her eyelashes.

Invest your heart.

You may say, "I don't feel like..."

Instead of waiting till you feel like it to act,
act your way into a new feeling!

This is NOT just self-help. It is turning to God and following him with actions.
You reap what you sow, for good or bad.

Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

What you invest in, your heart will be drawn to.

What you feed, grows. What you starve, dies.

Psalm 119:11 I have treasured Your word in my heart so that I may not sin against You.

Ask God to Direct Your Heart

Like Solomon: *1 Kings 3:9 So give Your servant an obedient heart to judge Your people and to discern between good and evil.*

Psalm 51:10 God, create a clean heart for me and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Psalm 26:2 Test me, LORD, and try me; examine my heart and mind.

We have elevated Self-Justification to an art form.
We can make anything we think or do sound OK!

Psalm 73:26 My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart, my portion forever.

In Conclusion:

Each person must start by asking Jesus to come into your heart.

Confess the wickedness of your heart. Believe Jesus paid for your sins on the cross.

Enthroned Jesus as King in your heart!

If you turn to God in faith, he promises:

Ezekiel 36:26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will remove your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.