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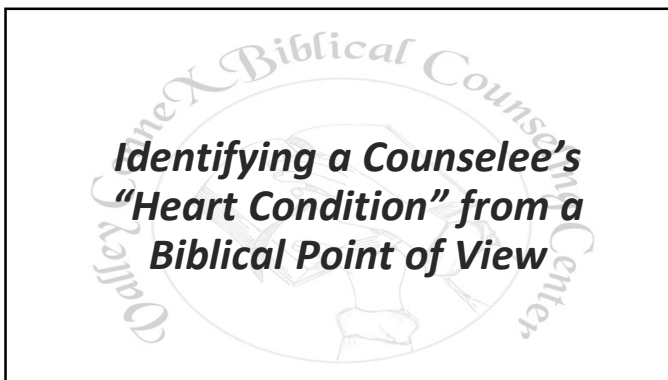
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The "Heart" a biblical definition

Adapted from, *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*, Gerhard Kittel, Editor, Volume III, pp. 611,612.

- The center of the inner life of man and the source or seat of all the forces and functions of soul and spirit.
  - *In the heart dwell feeling and emotions, desires and passions. e.g. joy and sorrow, Proverbs 15:13, desires, Psalm 37:4; love, 1 Timothy 1:5*
  - *The heart is the seat of understanding, the source of thought and reflection. See Mark 7:21-23; Matthew 12:34*

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The "Heart" a biblical definition

Adapted from, *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*, Gerhard Kittel, Editor, Volume III, pp. 611,612.

- The center of the inner life of man and the source or seat of all the forces and functions of soul and spirit.
  - *The heart is the seat of the will, the source of resolves. 2 Corinthians 9:7; Acts 5:1-4; Daniel 1:8 "settled in his heart"*
  - *The heart is supremely the one center in a person to which God engages, in which the religious life is rooted, which determines moral conduct. Jeremiah 11:20; Joel 2:12; Acts 16:14; Romans 10:9*

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"Presenting issue": behaviors or circumstances which place people in the counseling setting.

- Result of reacting to life according to the flesh. Galatians 5:19-21
- Traumatic events that threaten to overwhelm. Psalm 69; 107.

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5

Two Case Studies

- Jesus and the Rich Young Ruler. Matthew 19:16-22; Mark 10:17-22; Luke 14:18-23.
  - One of two possible presenting issues.
    - A prideful attempt for a public endorsement by this popular Teacher.
    - An awareness of something missing from his life in light of the teachings of Jesus.

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6

Two Case Studies

- Jesus and the Rich Young Ruler. Matthew 19:16-22; Mark 10:17-22; Luke 14:18-23.
  - Jesus began by asking a question designed to expose the biblical infraction of the man's thinking.
    - From the man's question we can conclude that he believed that a human being could achieve righteousness by good deeds.

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7

Two Case Studies

- Jesus and the Rich Young Ruler. Matthew 19:16-22; Mark 10:17-22; Luke 14:18-23.
  - Jesus began by asking a question designed to expose the biblical infraction of the man's thinking.
    - Jesus' question and subsequent statement shifted the focus to the fact that God is the standard of righteousness.

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8

Two Case Studies

- Jesus and the Rich Young Ruler. Matthew 19:16-22; Mark 10:17-22; Luke 14:18-23.
  - Jesus then pointed the man to scripture as the standard of what is good.
    - The man gave a quick and sincere but thoughtless answer.
    - Jesus then helped the man understand how the scripture applied to his life.

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9

Two Case Studies

- Jesus and the Rich Young Ruler. Matthew 19:16-22; Mark 10:17-22; Luke 14:18-23.
- The result of the Jesus' question and application of scripture exposed the man's heart:
  - First, he had not even begun to "love his neighbor as himself." (If so, it would not matter if they had his possessions.)

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10

Two Case Studies

- Jesus and the Rich Young Ruler. Matthew 19:16-22; Mark 10:17-22; Luke 14:18-23.
- The result of the Jesus' question and application of scripture exposed the man's heart:
  - Second, it revealed his lack of desire to embrace God's plan of righteousness in committing his life to Christ.

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11

Two Case Studies

- Jesus and the Rich Young Ruler. Matthew 19:16-22; Mark 10:17-22; Luke 14:18-23.
- An important question: Did this biblical counseling assignment end successfully?

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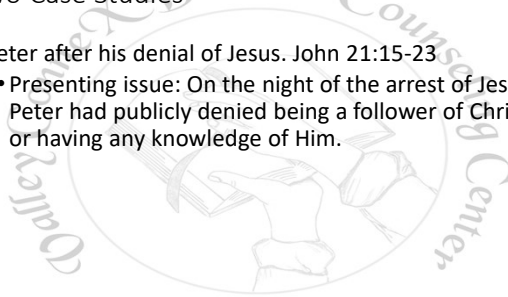
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12

Two Case Studies

- Peter after his denial of Jesus. John 21:15-23
  - Presenting issue: On the night of the arrest of Jesus, Peter had publicly denied being a follower of Christ or having any knowledge of Him.



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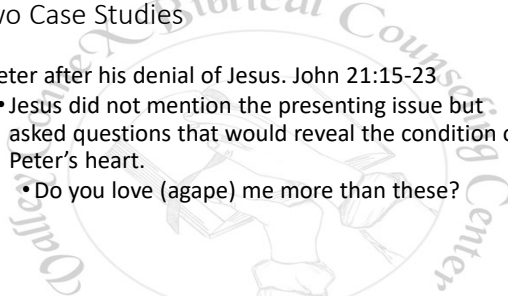
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Two Case Studies

- Peter after his denial of Jesus. John 21:15-23
  - Jesus did not mention the presenting issue but asked questions that would reveal the condition of Peter's heart.
    - Do you love (agape) me more than these?



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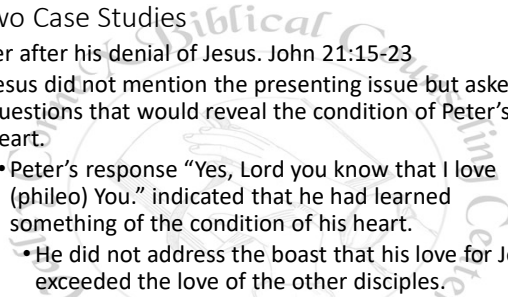
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Two Case Studies

- Peter after his denial of Jesus. John 21:15-23
  - Jesus did not mention the presenting issue but asked questions that would reveal the condition of Peter's heart.
    - Peter's response "Yes, Lord you know that I love (phileo) You." indicated that he had learned something of the condition of his heart.
      - He did not address the boast that his love for Jesus exceeded the love of the other disciples.
      - He also indicated a love not at the level that Jesus indicated.



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Two Case Studies

- Peter after his denial of Jesus. John 21:15-23
- Jesus did not mention the presenting issue but asked questions that would reveal the condition of Peter's heart.
  - Jesus followed up with a similar but different question, Do you love (agape) Me?
  - Peter gave the same answer, "Yes, Lord You know that I love (phileo) You."

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16

Two Case Studies

- Peter after his denial of Jesus. John 21:15-23
- Jesus did not mention the presenting issue but asked questions that would reveal the condition of Peter's heart.
  - Jesus asked the question again in yet a different way, Simon, son of John, do you love (phileo) Me?
  - Peter confessed his love (phileo) the third time indicating that he had truly come to grips with the condition of his heart.

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17

Two Case Studies

- Peter after his denial of Jesus. John 21:15-23
- Jesus' restored Peter and reassured him that he could and would be used of God for His glory. (Feed my sheep.)
  - Confession and repentance from the heart restore one to full fellowship with God.
- Dealing with the condition of the heart is never-ending.
  - Note Peter jumps right into another issue that elicits another diagnostic question and further instruction.

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18

Considerations:

- Listen to the counselee and the Holy Spirit in order to be able to ask questions that lead you to scriptures which will reveal the condition of the heart.
- Recognize that it is only the Word of God that can truly expose the thoughts and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12
- Realize that the counselor does not control the response of the person when God exposes the thoughts and intents of the heart.

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19

Considerations:

- Give appropriate encouragement after true confession and repentance.
- In your walk with God realize that God is always probing to reveal the condition of your heart.
- Don't get so focused on one issue in a counselee's heart that you miss other areas where God is working.

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