

# The Heart Tenderized Part 1

Scripture:	
Announcements:	
Scripture Reading:	
RECAP:	<p>So, we have been in a mini series on heart and God wants us to be in this mini series because He keeps lengthening the mini series.</p> <p>— Pretty soon we will have to call it just a series.</p> <p>— — We have looked at the heart and the working definition we have been using for heart is: the inner self, the place where thoughts come from, the mind, the place where thoughts come from, the mind, the place where choices are made, your intellect, or your will.</p> <p>— — — We looked into what the heart was capable of and last week we saw that that heart can be hardened to God.</p> <p>— — — — To harden one’s heart to God is to not surrender and hand our hearts over to God and live in obedience to God. It is not seeing, hearing, understanding, and remembering God.</p> <p>— — — — — The hardening of heart causes us not to seek Him out but turn from Him.</p>
INTRODUCTION:	<p>Today we will look at that, to change our hearts from hardened to tender we need to recognize where our hearts are.</p> <p>— I have asked you to learn about your hearts and I have told you what a hardened heart is; now I and asking you to assess where your heart is.</p> <p>— — After we know where our hearts are we can then begin to work on our hearts.</p> <p>— — — So, today we will begin to look at the first fix for our hearts after our assessment of our hearts.</p> <p>— — — — We will, over the next week or two, cover many ways to tenderize or soften the heart.</p>
Passage Begins	

Scripture:	
<p><b>Hebrews 3:7–11 (NASB95): 7 Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says,</b> <b>“Today if you hear His voice,</b> <b>8 Do not harden your hearts as when they provoked Me,</b> <b>As in the day of trial in the wilderness,</b> <b>9 Where your fathers tried Me by testing Me,</b> <b>And saw My works for forty years.</b> <b>10 “Therefore I was angry with this generation,</b> <b>And said, ‘They always go astray in their heart,</b> <b>And they did not know My ways’;</b> <b>11 As I swore in My wrath,</b> <b>‘They shall not enter My rest.’ ”</b></p>	<p>So as we look at how we tenderize or soften our hearts to God; how we surrender to Him and live in obedience to Him, not out of obligation, but out of the overflow of our hearts.</p> <p>— <b>READ: Luke 6:45 (NASB95): 45 “The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.</b></p> <p>— — Think about this, is the heart in surrender to God? Full surrender? If so, then we are submitting to Him.</p> <p>— — — We are listening to Him in His guiding through His Spirit, His word, His people, the situation He has us in, and any other way He speaks to us.</p> <p>— — — — We are seeing Him work all around us. We see the thing He is doing in our lives and the lives of others.</p> <p>— — — — — And we remember what God has done for us because we are thanking Him as we have seen Him work in mighty ways in our lives and the lives of others.</p> <p>— — — — — — When we live in surrender fully to God the treasure that is in our hearts is God and out of our hearts flows obedience to God as a side effect.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>So, the first thing that we need to do to turn our hearts from hardness to God to tender to God is to know where our hearts are.</p> <p>— We have covered this a bit as we have gone through our mini series on heart so you should have an ideal of what I am talking about.</p> <p>— — We need to take an honest assessment of our hearts and where they are at.</p> <p>— — — We have not known how much of our heart is still diseased by the old self, by the world, and claimed by the enemies of God.</p> <p>— — — — We talked extensively about what the heart is capable of and now we have to focus on what is your heart capable of?</p> <p>— — — — — What is the condition of your heart? What is the produce of your heart?</p> <p>— — — — — — My hope for the last 2 weeks is that you have taken serious this look into your heart. If you have not, well there is the state of your heart; if you have taken it serious, then I hope that God have abundantly pointed out areas in your heart that need work.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>The Psalmist asked God to search His heart so too should we: <b><u>READ: Psalm 139:23–24 (NASB95):</u></b></p> <p><b>23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts; 24 And see if there be any hurtful way in me, And lead me in the everlasting way.</b></p> <p>—He pleads with God to search and find deficiencies in him and correct him.</p> <p>— —The Psalmist is not looking to continue in the pattern of sinful living but want to be according to God’s everlasting way.</p> <p>— — —God can heal hearts that are hard, sick, and disobedient but we have to come to the realization of our hearts.</p> <p>— — — —<b><u>READ: 2 Samuel 12:1–7 (NASB95):</u></b> <b>1 Then the Lord sent Nathan to David. And he came to him and said, “There were two men in one city, the one rich and the other poor. 2 “The rich man had a great many flocks and herds. 3 “But the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb Which he bought and nourished; And it grew up together with him and his children. It would eat of his bread and drink of his cup and lie in his bosom, And was like a daughter to him. 4 “Now a traveler came to the rich man, And he was unwilling to take from his own flock or his own herd, To prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him; Rather he took the poor man’s ewe lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him.” 5 Then David’s anger burned greatly against the man, and he said to Nathan, “As the Lord lives, surely the man who has done this deserves to die. 6 “He must make restitution for the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing and had no compassion.” 7 Nathan then said to David, “You are the man! Thus says the Lord God of Israel, ‘It is I who anointed you king over Israel and it is I who delivered you from the hand of Saul.</b></p>

Scripture:	
	<p>David attempted to cover his sin, he sinned more and more, and his heart was not near God and was not surrendering to God but to self image preservation.</p> <p>—God sent Nathan to point out the sin of David that was separating him from the Lord God.</p> <p>— —Nathan laid out David’s heart condition and David had a choice to make.</p> <p>— — —He could choose to ignore Nathan’s message or He could accept it and repent.</p> <p>— — — —<b>READ: 2 Samuel 12:13 (NASB95): 13 Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.” And Nathan said to David, “The Lord also has taken away your sin; you shall not die.</b></p> <p>— — — — —This is a moment of true repentance that we are given in the Bible.</p> <p>—David confesses his sins, accepts whatever God’s consequence is, and lived a changed life, a life submitted to God. A life surrendered to God.</p>
	<p>Do you know your heart condition? Do you know the treasure you are producing out of your heart?</p> <p>—Is it good treasure? Is it bad treasure?</p> <p>— —Is sin ruling your life? Is the world ruling your life? Is money, power, fame, self image, or is God ruling your life?</p> <p>— — —I hope that this is a modified Nathan moment for you.</p> <p>— — — —I hope God is overwhelmingly point out your heart to you.</p> <p>— — — — —Are you that man or woman like David that has allowed anything other that God to dominate your heart?</p> <p>— — — — — —Well, what do we do if we asses our hearts and we are hardened in our hearts, we are embracing sin, the overflow of our hearts is not obedience? This will be the focus for the rest of our mini series.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>If we are in need of a heart change you have to know that nothing will happen unless God is involved.</p> <p>— In order for hearts to be changed, God has to be involved.</p> <p>— — <b><u>READ: John 15:5 (NASB95):</u></b> 5 “I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.</p> <p>— — — God has to work in us to change our hearts.</p> <p>— — — — This begins when we are converted. We learn that Jesus laid down His life for us so that we can enter into peace with the God of the universe. Jesus paid the price for us that we had to pay and when we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior and surrender our whole lives to Him; He changes our hearts.</p> <p>— — — — — Well, nothing changes from our conversion to our assertion; Jesus still changes us, we just join Him in His work.</p> <p>— — — — — — <b><u>READ: Luke 22:19–20 (NASB95):</u></b> 19 And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” 20 And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>When we give our lives to Christ we are given a new heart by Him.</p> <p>—<b><u>READ: Ezekiel 11:19–20 (NASB95):</u></b> 19 “And I will give them one heart, and put a new spirit within them. And I will take the heart of stone out of their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, 20 <u>that they may walk in My statutes and keep My ordinances and do them.</u> Then they will be My people, and I shall be their God.</p> <p>— — But when the heart gets off track it is God who we should go to get us back on track.</p> <p>— — — How do we know when we are off track and need to get back on track?</p> <p>— — — — We stop walking in God status and keeping His ordinance.</p> <p>— — — — — How Do we know we are on track? We need to walk in God status and keep His ordinances joyfully.</p> <p>— — — — — <b><u>READ: Psalm 119:47 (NASB95):</u></b> 47 I shall delight in Your commandments, Which I love.</p> <p>— — — — — <b><u>READ: Psalm 119:127–128 (NASB95):</u></b> 127 Therefore I love Your commandments Above gold, yes, above fine gold. 128 Therefore I esteem right all Your precepts concerning everything, I hate every false way.</p>
	<p>So, what is our take away? How do we apply this to our lives? What is our practical application?</p> <p>— We have to know where our hearts are. We have to have honest assessment of our hearts as often as we can.</p> <p>— — We need to ask God to point out areas of our hearts that need changing.</p> <p>— — — We have to assess our treasure that comes out of our hearts. Is it obedience out of surrender or is it rebel out of selfishness?</p> <p>— — — — If we are going to have a changed heart we have to as David did surrender so God can work.</p> <p>— — — — — God changes hearts so are you trying to change without God or are you starting with God?</p> <p>— — — — — Lastly, is your your heart in love with God’s commandments? Are they more valuable to you than gold? If not God is calling you to a heart change.</p>

Scripture:	
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