

**Victoria Fellowship Church**  
**International & Interdenominational**  
**Bible Study Worksheet – February 27, 2022**

**Theme:** The Beatitudes    **Topic:** Blessed are the pure in heart: Single-minded devotion to God

**Main Texts:** Psalm 24:1-6; Matthew 5:1-8

**Key verse:** Matthew 5:8 *“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.” (NKJV)*

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**INTRODUCTION:** This sixth beatitude, *‘Blessed are the pure in heart...’* highlights two key words – the heart and purity. The first is the heart. The heart is the seat of one’s thoughts, desires, and motives. The second key word is purity. According to the Cambridge English Dictionary, ‘purity’ refers to the state of not being mixed with anything else. What this means is that purity should be from within - who we are deep within, our core person, our identity, our desires, beliefs, and convictions. When our hearts are in something, it means that we are all in for it. It is like someone said, *‘Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God’* means that people who go all out for God, not halfway, will see God.

1. (a) **Judaism was strong in external cleansing ceremonies like handwashing, and other purification rites. How do you think this beatitude would have been received by Jesus’ audience?** (b) **How important is it for us to have pure hearts according to Psalm 24:3-4; Proverbs 4:23; Jeremiah 17:9** (c) **Think about Deuteronomy 6:4-5. How would you define single-minded devotion to God?**

A little boy was once asked about purity of heart. His response, ‘purity of heart is to will one thing.’ In his answer, that little boy echoed what God said in Deuteronomy 6:5, which Jesus repeated in Mark 12:30 (NLT), *‘And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.’* ‘All’ means the whole, everything, completely, the entirety of who we are. That means we are to love God with everything we have. To do otherwise is to become mixed with something else. Take Moses for instance. It is easy to read about all that God did for and through Moses from Exodus to Deuteronomy, and wish to be so used. But when we see Moses in Hebrews 11:24-27, we realize that it involved some hard choices and missed privileges, and opportunities. And all because Moses was a man after one thing – God!

2. (a) **According to Matthew 6:21-25, and James 4:8, what things can distract one’s single-minded devotion to God?** (b) **How did our Lord Jesus, and someone like Apostle Paul demonstrate this single-mindedness as seen in 1 Corinthians 2:2; Hebrews 11:2-3;** (c) **How does purity of heart promote single-minded devotion to God? See passages like Psalm 51:6,10; James 4:8.**

Those who are single-minded in their quest for God are assured that they will see God. Among the Jews, to see the face of someone, or to be in the presence of anyone, expresses great favor. It was regarded as a high honor to be in the presence of kings and princes, and to be permitted to see them. That explains why when God told Moses, *“I will indeed do what you have asked, for I look favorably on you, and I know you by name.”* Moses’ response was, *“Then show me your glorious presence.”* (Exodus 33:17-18 NLT). To see God is the ultimate evidence of being favored by Him. So, when Jesus said in Matthew 5:8 that the pure in heart will see God, the disciples and all who heard Him knew what He was saying. But knowing what Psalm 24:4 said that only those who are perfectly righteous and holy in every way, (clean hands, pure hearts...) could see God, must have caused them to wonder if Jesus was pulling their legs. But only faith in Christ can enable anyone to measure up to that standard of holiness and righteousness. (Romans 5:1-2; 8:1-4). *Moses’ faith gave him sight and set his hope on what God promised. Faith let him see beyond the realm of the natural into the realm of the supernatural, where God dwells and operates*

3. (a) **According to Jeremiah 17:9, how likely is it for any of us to attain to the level of purity which qualifies one to see God?** (b) **How is that problem solved according to Hebrews 10:22?** (c) **According to 1 John 3:1-2, what should we look forward to because of what God has done for us?**

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**Prayer:** *Thank You, Lord Jesus that through faith in Your death and resurrection, we have been made holy and so, are privileged to see God and can look forward to seeing God face to face. Amen.*