

Connecting with God: The Intellectual Heart

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – September 26, 2021

Romans 12:2

2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-his good, pleasing and perfect will.

The Intellectual Heart...

1. CONNECTS WITH GOD THROUGH STUDY

2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

The Intellectual Heart...

2. MUST HAVE MIND FULLY CONVINCED BEFORE HEART CAN FOLLOW

Romans 12:2 “be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”

Mark 12:28-31

28 One of the teachers of the law [asked Jesus] ..., "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" 29 "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

The Intellectual Heart...

3. SPIRITUALLY MATURES THROUGH STUDY

1 Corinthians 3:1-2

1 Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual but as worldly-mere infants in Christ. 2 I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready.

Hebrews 5:11-6:1

11 We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because you are slow to learn. 12 In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! 13 Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. 14 But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. 6:1 Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity...

The Intellectual Heart...

4. CAN BE VULNERABLE TO:

- A “Show Me” faith (ex. Thomas)
- Struggling with Unanswerable questions

John 20:27-29

27 Then [Jesus] said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." 28 Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

CONCLUSION:

Matthew 28:18-20

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."