

Heart Matters

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“For the eyes of the Lord search back and forth across the whole earth, looking for people whose hearts are perfect toward him...”

2 Chronicles 16:9 TLB

All of us make mistakes and do things we know we shouldn't. We lose our tempers with each other, don't keep our word, let our guard down and compromise. It's easy to go around feeling guilty and condemned, beating ourselves up with shame. Voices will whisper, “God's never going to bless you as a couple. You don't deserve it.” We think, *Once we overcome all these things we're struggling with, we'll have God's favor.*

But God is not looking for couples who have a perfect performance, who never make a mistake. He's looking for people who have perfect hearts toward Him. That means you may make mistakes, but you have a desire to please Him. Deep down you want to honor Him with your lives. It's your hearts that matter.

When Jesus chose His twelve disciples, He chose people who had lots of flaws. God looks beyond all that. He knows it's the heart that matters. He chose those whose hearts were turned toward Him. Your performance may not be perfect, and your behavior, attitude, and character may need some improvement, but just as with the disciples, God is saying, “I know your hearts are sincere. So I'm going to show Myself strong in your lives.”

A PRAYER FOR TODAY

Father, we love You and humbly come to You with open and willing hearts. Search us. Know us. Our performance is far from perfect, and there is so much we need to improve on in our attitudes and characters, but our hearts are toward You. Our hearts are set to do the right thing in Jesus' Name. Amen.