

TENTH SUNDAY IN KINGDOMTIDE

August 14, 2022

THE HOW OF HAPPINESS

8 PRINCIPLES FOR POWERFUL LIVING

“HAPPY ARE THE PURE IN HEART”

Scripture: St. Matthew and Psalms (CEB)

St. Matthew 5:1-8

1 Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up a mountain. He sat down and his disciples came to him. 2 He taught them, saying:

3 “Happy are people who are hopeless, because the kingdom of heaven is theirs.”

4 “Happy are people who grieve, because they will be made glad.”

5 “Happy are people who are humble, because they will inherit the earth.”

6 “Happy are people who are hungry and thirsty for righteousness, because they will be fed until they are full.”

7 “Happy are people who show mercy, because they will receive mercy.”

8 “Happy are people who have pure hearts, because they will see God.”

Psalms 51:10-13

Create a clean heart for me, God;

put a new, faithful spirit deep inside me!

11 Please don't throw me out of your presence;

please don't take your holy spirit away from me.

12 Return the joy of your salvation to me

and sustain me with a willing spirit.

13 Then I will teach wrongdoers your ways,

and sinners will come back to you.

~ SERMON NOTES ~

Today we come to the 6th principle of true happiness that Jesus shares with us in what are famously known as The Beatitudes. This principle of pure hearts raises four issues that we need to consider. What kind of “heart” do you have?

The _____ Heart.

The biggest heart problem in the church will not find healing with a cardiologist's prescription. The heart's biggest problem is that it does not always follow God's way, and so it cheats itself and those with whom it comes into contact.

The _____ Heart.

When we genuinely come to Christ, with all we are and have, God purifies our inner conscience. This is the message “at the heart” of the Methodist movement!

The _____ Heart.

A life characterized by the fruit of the Spirit, "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" (Gal. 5:22-23), is the heart that belongs to Christ. The evidences of spirit fruit are indicators of a healthy spirit-heart.

The _____ Heart.

God still answers those who echo David's prayer, "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10). And God will answer your prayer for a pure heart today.

