



Fairgrounds Road
C H U R C H O F C H R I S T

MESSENGER

“And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also.” 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – March 22, 2026

Heart to Heart...

“This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you in which I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder.” (II Peter 3:1) Peter was convinced the brethren who read his inspired letter from God were of sincere minds and he was going to remind them of some things they could attach themselves to for their spiritual health. What about us? How concerned are we about our spiritual health? A person with a “sincere mind” wants to know, grasping hold and responding to God’s word when they hear it. They are not those who are *“merely hearers who delude themselves.”* (James 1:22) Too many sit for years hearing the word of God taught with little response from within their heart.

A “sincere mind” is pure and unmixed. They have pure motives and thoughts. *“To the pure, all things are pure; but to those who are defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure, but both their mind and their conscience are defiled. They profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny Him, being detestable and disobedient, and worthless for any good deed.”* (Titus 1:15-16) People that are not sincere in mind cannot be reached or helped. Preaching and teaching does little in reaching them because they do not want to hear. They have their own mind set, see things from that mind set and refuse to see themselves in the light of God’s word. Their world is based on impurity and they cannot recognize it. A “sincere mind” produces a “sincere faith”. A faith that is pure and moving forward. It is a faith that moves deeper and deeper into the love of Christ.

A “sincere faith” does the following: *“Now examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil.”* (I Thessalonians 5:21-22). They examine things in light of the Lord, move with the Lord and does not allow any evil to influence their life. *“But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.”* (Timothy 1:5) The goal of all instruction, preaching and teaching is right here. This is what preachers and all teachers should be using as the driving force in their lives. *“For some men, straying from these things, have turned aside to fruitless discussions.”* (I Timothy 1:6) The quickest way to destroy a pure heart, good conscience and sincere faith is also found

right here. To discuss things that aren't wholesome and pure will destroy a spiritual life. A "sincere faith" keeps true to God and His word. Peter wrote to stir up the brethren's sincere mind. Paul instructed Timothy to preach things that would produce a sincere faith. We need to concern ourselves by being a person with a sincere mind and faith in following our Lord and Savior. Think about it!!!

-Brent