

The weekly newsletter article of Parkside Chapel

LIFENEWS

UNDIVIDED

by Gordon Lanpher, Children's Pastor

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With cell phones at our fingertips, we constantly have the world within our reach. The other day, I was watching a person being interviewed on YouTube. While listening, I kept scrolling on my phone without too much consequence. But then I found a reel on my phone and started to watch it, forgetting I was already watching/listening to something else. I actually had two videos playing at the same time, and I was trying to hear both. It fractured my attention. With my attention divided, I realized I wasn't remembering anything that happened in the first video.

This division doesn't happen only with our attention but with our hearts. Many verses talk about having a single focus. Here are just a few: "You can't serve two masters...." Matthew 6:24, "One thing I have asked of the LORD and this is what I seek," Psalm 27:4. This undivided heart is highlighted in Psalm 8:11-13: "Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name. I will praise you, Lord, my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever. For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the depths, from the realm of the dead."

An undivided heart brings worship to God in all we do. An undivided heart is walking in the way of the LORD by the Spirit of the LORD so that everything we do is worship. An undivided heart is only possible by the Spirit of God working in us.

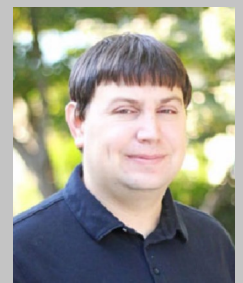
This is what God promised in Ezekiel 11:19, "I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh." When you trust Jesus, God places the Holy Spirit within you and gives you this undivided heart. Jesus is referring to this with the greatest command in Matthew 22:37: "Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." It is about living a life that in every way worships him. This only comes by walking daily, actually hourly with him.

Where has your heart been divided lately?

Where have you been trying to "watch two screens" at once?

Do you need an adjustment?

May God bring us an undivided heart today so that we may walk out a life of worship.



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