

Introduction:

- Pastor Tim has been sharing on the heart Wednesday nights. Watching over our hearts, understanding that we store what we treasure there, and loving well from the heart are some of the golden nuggets. Tonight, we're going to look at the heart that is tuned into the "Eternity Channel."

I. Please turn to Ecclesiastics 3:11. *While you find that verse, let me relate a life story that some of you may have heard me share before, but I'll refresh your memory.*

- A. God asked me: *"I want to write eternity on your heart."*
- B. *"Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end."* Ecclesiastes 3:11 (NLT)
- C. When God writes something on your heart, it's different. It changes you! There is Holy Spirit power behind it!!
- D. Jeremiah prophesied: *"But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel after those days,"* says the Lord. *"I will put my instructions deep within them, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people."* Jeremiah 31:33 (NLT)

II. You may have pondered questions from time to time like:

- Why am I here?
 - What is the meaning of life?
 - Is my life gonna count for something?
 - Will I make a difference?
 - Deep philosophical pondering...
- A. It has been described as a God-shaped hole inside all of us. We were created for an eternal love relationship with God. Love out of free choice. But sin messed that up.
 - B. People try to fill the void in their lives with:
 1. Pleasure - lust of the flesh, eyes, pride of life.
 2. Stuff - rich man and his barns (Luke 12:16-21).
 3. Power - Control, authority.
 4. People will try most anything and everything.
 - C. Even after we accept Christ, the flesh wants to keep us bound up in the old ways, not walking in our new creation identity per the Holy Spirit who is alive and working inside us to make us more like Jesus.

III. Everything changes when we choose to view life in the light of eternity.

- Our focus changes - what we pay attention to and what we choose to ignore.

- Our priorities change - how we spend our time.
- Our desires change - no longer lovers of pleasure or self.
- Our passions change - what we put all our energy into.
- Our motivations change - what determines our agenda and drives our decision making.
- Our treasures we value change - no longer storing up treasures on earth.
- Our attitudes change - positive, constructive, encouraging.
- Our actions change - we do what matters in eternity.
- Our world view changes - totally different perspective, apolitical, having a love for all nations, people groups, races...

Closing:

- I'd like to give everyone the opportunity tonight to change the channel.
- Let Him retune your heart to Eternity.
- Let Him write Eternity on your heart.
- *"For God is working in you, giving you the 1) desire and the 2) power to do what pleases him."* Philippians 2:13 NLT