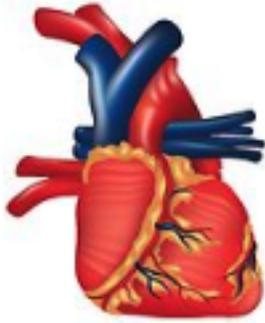


WHAT CONDITION IS YOUR HEART IN?



IS IT HEALTHY OR IS IT SICK?

PSALM 51:10 says, "Create a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."

A former Medical student said, I remember seeing a healthy heart and a diseased heart side by side in one of my college classes. The healthy heart looked strong and fit. The diseased heart was a sickly color, and it looked bloated and spongy.

That image sticks in my mind. The diseased heart symbolizes for me the sin-sick heart; discolored by evil emotions and intentions, bloated by selfishness, and spongy through lack of giving love and compassion.

The only solution for a sin-sick heart is a transplant by the Giver of All New Life. God can take a diseased heart and make it New, Fresh, and Alive! Pray for God to remove the disease of sin, and He will come and heal you!

2 Corinthians 6:1 says:
"Now is the accepted time,
behold, now is the day of
Salvation!"

So, why not come to Jesus right now and confess your faith in Him and ask Him to forgive you of your sins and give you a healthy heart to live for Him and do His Will.

And if you believe it, tell Jesus that you believe that He died on the Cross for your sins and that He arose again, asking Him to forgive all your sins, and to take the stony heart out of you and give you a regenerated heart so that you are a new creature in Christ.

Then you will be "Born Again!" Like Jesus said you need to be, in John 3:3: "Verily, Verily I say unto you, except a man be "born again," (regenerated, conceived) he/she cannot see the Kingdom of God."

John 3:5, Jesus said again and added water too: Verily, Verily I say unto you, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he/she cannot enter into the Kingdom of God.

"That which is born of flesh is flesh (human nature, carnally minded) and that which is born of the Spirit, (Christ's Spirit) is Spirit. 3:6

When you are born again you will be changed in the blink of an eye and you will then be a New Creature in Christ!

"Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a New Creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become New!"
2 Corinthians 5:17

Then you will have a supernatural Dad...a Father in Heaven who you now belong to, and you will be redeemed from your sins.

You can't be born again just by being religious; just by showing up at church and or by doing good works. Jesus said that Everyone has to be born again...by coming to him and confessing that you are a sinner, and repenting and surrendering the rest of your life to Him and to love and trust and obey His Holy Word.

And then to have a Real Relationship with Jesus, that is the ALL important thing! If you have a wonderful Relationship with Jesus you will just naturally become like Him, which is what His intentions are to mold your character so that you become Christ-like and be like He is in character...loving and kind and doing the things that please Him and bearing much fruit!

This will happen naturally as you develop a close relationship with Jesus. And you will find that you won't have to force yourself to do God's will and feel tired out from it. You will do it with joy and be peaceful about it and you will have more energy and ideas to help Jesus spread His love and the message of Salvation than you thought possible!

Jesus will encourage you on and you will be joyful and restful about whatever you do for Him with the Holy Spirit as your Helper. And you will bear more and more fruit that springs out of your Relationship with Jesus!

John 15:4, "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear forth much fruit: for without Me you can do Nothing!"

You have to be born again and have a Relationship with Jesus to be able to bear much fruit. You can't do it in your own strength. He gives you the joy and strength and leading and nourishment you need as you go along, one day at a time, as you keep your relationship going with Him.

It comes no other way...without that all important close Relationship with Him you will wear yourself out trying to do good works. So many people try to do things on their own strength when we can't do it on our own.

Do you really want to Know Jesus and not just believe and know About Him? Jesus has given us the Awesome gift of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost (Spirit) so that we can get to know Him and to really commune with Him that will provide everything you need: He will comfort you and give you strength; He will be your teacher and prayer partner and your helper and your guide.

In Acts 2:38, Peter said, Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the Name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the Gift of the Holy Ghost."

"For the promise (of the Holy Ghost) is unto you, and to your children and to ALL that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." 2:39

Acts 22:16, "And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized and wash away thy sins, calling on the Name of the Lord."

True baptism is to be baptized in Jesus' Name and totally immersed under water. That is the way to be baptized...following Jesus' example. It's so important to do it the Bible way!

Sprinkling is not baptism...you have to be buried in baptism in using Jesus name, taking on His Name as you join His Family. Read Romans 6:1-6

This is how to receive the Holy Spirit:

"ASK and it shall be given you; Seek and ye shall find; Knock, and it shall be opened to you."

"For everyone that Asketh receiveth; and he that Seeketh findeth; and to him that Knocketh it shall be opened."

"If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?"

"If ye then, being evil, know how to give GOOD GIFTS unto your children: HOW MUCH MORE shall your Heavenly Father give the HOLY SPIRIT to them that ASK Him?" Luke 11:9-13

We need to Ask Jesus and continue to press in with Him for this awesome gift which is Joy unspeakable! It will make ALL the difference in your life, friend! Read all about it in Acts 2:4, 2:16-21, 8:15-17, 10:44-48, and Acts 19:2-7

We need to read and receive the Word of God in our hearts, as fact without question and obey it. That's the right way to go.

The Holy Spirit will give you rest and joy and peace and thanksgiving, and strength and everything you desperately need to make it through this life, living in victory and not defeat!

It will help greatly to be around people who are receiving the Holy Spirit in their midst...who participate with each other and encourage each other to love and worship alone and together, and to read their Bibles daily for nourishment and learning.

You receive the Holy Spirit when you are loving and worshipping Jesus for who He is, not for what you want...love and adore Him and you will soon have your request; to be FILLED with His Holy Spirit with evidence of speaking in tongues! That is the SIGN that you have been Filled! It's like being engulfed with LOVE when you are filled and He will give you such Joy! It's like someone turned the light on when you receive it, like you were asleep and now you are awake, friend. It's awesome!

I encourage you not to waste any time...DO seek this wonderful gift! What is needed is to study all about it in Acts and read about the Holy Spirit in John 7:37-39, and to obey the scripture and be baptized in Jesus' Name by immersion first. Once you have been baptized in the Bible way, then you can seek the Baptism of the Holy Ghost more fully. Altho, some people are filled before they are baptized while they are worshipping, but that's usually when they are learning about all these things and then they can't wait to be baptized!

