

## **Series: One Confused Parent**

### **How Do I Maintain an Authentic Christian Testimony?**

- 1. If God's against it, so am I:** (Galatians 5:19-24)
- 2. Every sin has its origin in your heart:** (Prov 4:23)  
(Heb 3:10) *Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do always err in their heart; and they have not known my ways.*

#### **Decide He's Right!**

You cannot "Trust" your heart: (Jer 17:9)  
It is sin even if all you do is think about it! (Ezek 8:12)  
(Matt 5:21-22) (Matt 5: 28) (Eph 5:11-12)

**Why?** B/c what is in our hearts come out our hands, feet, and mouth! (Mark 7:20-23)

#### **Whoever has your heart will eventually have you!**

This is why God wants your heart!  
WHO/What has your child's heart?  
This is also Important in all of your relationships.

**Authenticity Produces Credibility:** (1 Thes 2:1-7)

**Credibility Produces Influence:** (1 Thes 2:7-11)

**Quality ME~Authentic Time with MY Heart**

#### **III. Influence Validates Authority:** (1 Thes 2:13-20)

- 1. If God's against it, so am I:** (Galatians 5:19-24)
- 2. Every sin has its origin in your heart:** (Prov 4:23)

#### ***How Do I Maintain an Authentic Christian Testimony?***

**#1. It is easier to keep the heart clean than it is to clean it after it has been defiled.** (Prov 22:3) (Prov 6:27-28)

**Decide you are not immune!** - Proverbs 6:27-28

**Determine** - You have to Guard your heart: Prov 4:23

**Detour to Develop a Heart for God!** Ps 84:1-4

**Discipline ourselves to put the good in & take the bad out:**  
(Rom 13:14) "*Make not Provision for the Flesh*"

#### **Appetites of the Spirit must be Put in on Purpose.**

(Rom 12:21) "*Overcome evil with good.*"

The Flesh does not desire a heart for God. (Rom 8:6-8)  
But God desires us: (1 Jn 4:10)

**#2. We Grieve the Holy Spirit with our Sin:** (Eph 4:30)

His lack of fellowship with us Grieves our Spirit:

We have to spend so much more time to renew our fellowship with God, once it is broken.  
(Heb 3:10)

**It's not like we don't see it coming!** (Prov 22:3)

*We just enjoy the pleasures of sin more –* (Heb 11:24-25)

**When Temptation Comes: Take the way of escape offered!**

(1 Cor 10:13)

At the Moment of choice Act with Spiritual Integrity.

**Illus:** (Gen 39:7-12) *He RAN from it! Smart boy!*

**We know Our Areas of failure:**

(Rom 13:14) "*Make not Provision for the Flesh*"