

A TALE OF TWO HEARTS

Part 1

How to Grow a Hard Heart

1 Samuel 9:1-31:13

**Above all else, guard your heart,
for everything you do flows from it.**

Proverbs 4:23 NIV

Every relational problem
is at root a heart problem.

FOUR HEART TRUTHS

1. GOD SEES YOUR HEART

**God would surely have known it,
for he knows the secrets of every heart.**

Psalms 44:21 NLT

**... the LORD searches every heart and understands every motive
behind the thoughts.**

1 Chronicles 28:9

**The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure.
Who can understand it?**

Jeremiah 17:9

2. YOU SHAPE YOUR HEART AND THEN YOUR HEART SHAPES YOU:

**Above all else, guard your heart,
for everything you do flows from it.**

Proverbs 4:23

**For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual
immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.**

Matthew 15:19

3. YOU ARE ACCOUNTABLE FOR YOUR HEART:

*Other people are not accountable for your heart
God is not accountable for your heart.
Circumstances are not accountable for your heart.
Your parents are not accountable for your heart.*

4. GOD IS SEARCHING FOR HEARTS:

**For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth
to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.**

2 Chronicles 16:9a

King Saul and King David had much in common . . .

- both were from well to do and influential families
- both were chosen by God directly to be kings of Israel
- both were anointed in a somewhat clandestine manner by Samuel the godly judge of Israel
- both were given by God great skills to lead as king
- both had the same national enemy during their reign . . . the Philistines
- they knew each other
- they were both looked down upon by others when the idea they would be king was presented
- both were highly regarded by the people for their leadership abilities at one point in their lives
- both knew the blessing of God in their leadership

**BUT THEY WERE ALSO DIFFERENT MEN
WITH STRATEGICALLY DIFFERENT HEARTS.**

1 Samuel 9:1 – 31:13

**Hard hearts differ from healthy hearts in this way . . .
hard hearts are all about serving self
while healthy hearts are all about serving God and others.**