

## **Matters of the Heart**

Experiencing Personal Revival  
Selected Scriptures

Isaiah 29:13 presents one of the most tragic scriptural indictments. It affirms that it is possible to be very religious and, yet, have a cold or nonexistent relationship with God. Jesus quotes this passage in Matthew 15:8 to address the religious exterior of the Pharisees and scribes of His day that hid the startling reality that they did not know the true God at all. A real, vibrant, life-changing relationship with God is never strictly the result of adherence to a system of religious practices or creeds. Rather, the deeper, truer self must be actively engaged in consistent contact with the Divine through Jesus Christ. True relationship with God causes a longing for intimate fellowship with God. The good news for those who have no relationship with God is that one can be established. The good news for those whose relationships with God have grown cold is that the relationship can be fanned into a raging fire once again. This is revival. Simply stated, it begins and ends with one's heart.

Affection can be directed and assigned. Where we focus our attention and energy is where we direct and assign our affection. Satan is the master of distraction. He seeks to fill our minds with a confused sense of obligation to people and things that compete with God for our attention. Many of us fear the notion of not being reliable or dependable. We long deeply to be considered trustworthy. This is not a sinister desire unless it causes a competition for our focus on spending intimate time with God. We must be careful not to allow good things to distract us from God things. This lesson is designed to give us tools for self-examination. Where does my heart stand before God? Have I become cold toward God? May God revive our hearts!

I. What is \_\_\_\_\_?

a. The \_\_\_\_\_.

i. \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_.

2. \_\_\_\_\_.

3. \_\_\_\_\_.

ii. \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_.

2. \_\_\_\_\_.

3. \_\_\_\_\_.

4. \_\_\_\_\_.

5. \_\_\_\_\_.

iii. \_\_\_\_\_

iv. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_.

c. \_\_\_\_\_.

II. What is the Condition \_\_\_\_\_?

a. \_\_\_\_\_.

b. \_\_\_\_\_.

c. \_\_\_\_\_.

III. What Brings About \_\_\_\_\_?

a. \_\_\_\_\_.

b. Intimacy with God through \_\_\_\_\_.

c. Intimacy with God through \_\_\_\_\_.

d. Intimacy with God through \_\_\_\_\_.

e. Intimacy with God through \_\_\_\_\_.

IV. What Develops and Protects \_\_\_\_\_?

a. Familiarity with \_\_\_\_\_.

i. \_\_\_\_\_.

ii. \_\_\_\_\_.

iii. \_\_\_\_\_.

iv. \_\_\_\_\_.

b. Deliberate \_\_\_\_\_.

i. \_\_\_\_\_.

ii. \_\_\_\_\_.

iii. Intentional \_\_\_\_\_.