



GOOD MORNING SAINTS

Golden Nugget

My Heart is Greater Than This

I want to tell you a secret about Jesus that can be your secret too!

When Jesus heard about the death of John the Baptist, do you remember what He did? He went off to a place of solitude to spend time in prayer. It's no secret that Jesus used prayer to maintain the Heavenly connection with His Father. Prayer is vital to maintaining the Heavenly connection. Jesus needed to do it, and we do too. Prayer must be a part of your daily life and walk with God. We can't neglect prayer. Prayer is great. But that's not the secret I want to tell you about.

Prayer helped Jesus keep the Heavenly connection. At the same time, Jesus lived and walked among us, and had to live in this world. Somehow Jesus had to maintain an earthly connection to people. You and I are in the same situation.

Someone told me last week, "I just wish I could go to Heaven and be with God right now." That is a great statement, and you can't argue with it. At the same time, people often make a statement like that because they don't feel an earthly connection. They don't feel a part. They don't feel they belong anywhere. While Jesus maintained the Heavenly connection, maybe the bigger issue is how did He maintain the earthly connection?

As you read the gospels, you have to be impressed by the things Jesus did: He was a teacher, a healer, a true exorcist, a leader, the Savior. All these things involved people! Jesus **HAD** to have a way to maintain the earthly connection.

So, how did He do it?

Here's the secret: Jesus had (and has) a **GREAT HEART!**

Are you disappointed at this answer? I don't think you will be if you will let me tell you what I mean.

Think about how long you have been a Christian. How have you made an impact on the world with your faith? I have been a minister for many years, and I wonder how many lives I have touched for the Lord. Certainly not as many as I want! But then I think about this: Jesus had less than three years of ministry, and it was enough time to usher in the Kingdom of God. Wow! Jesus was the most effective person in the history of the universe. And all His work involved people. He met all kinds of folks everyday. Sometimes He was too busy helping, teaching, and healing to even stop and eat. The golden thread that runs through His entire ministry? He had a **GREAT HEART!**

Jesus looked on people with compassion. Jesus wept over Jerusalem. Weeping requires heart. Heart means you have a lifestyle, a mind set, and an attitude of **Caring Compassion**. That's the key to staying in the game of life. If you don't care about anything, life is over until you find something to care about.

One person said "Look, I don't know what ignorance and apathy is, and I don't care." Think about that statement. It sums up the attitude of people with no heart.

Join me! Be thankful to God if you can cry for someone. To care about others. It's a blessing to feel compassion. It feels great, even if it seems like hurt at first.

So here's the prescription for a Great Heart: Repeat after me — **"BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, MY HEART IS GREATER THAN THIS!"**

That's it! That's the formula.

When you face a problem that seems overwhelming...

When a co-workers stabs you in the back...

When someone you love is sick...

When you feel sorry for yourself...

When Ol' satan comes after you with some temptation...

When you have too much month left at the end of the money...

When you are rejected...

When you feel your heart clutched in jealousy, anger, disappointment...

...say **BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, MY HEART IS GREATER THAN THIS!**

With all my heart, I want you to know this will make a difference.

It will keep you from discouragement. Discouragement is satan's greatest tool. It requires very little effort on his part, and it brings him great results. Of course he wants you to be discouraged. Right now, you are reading this, and facing tough situations. Right now, you may be feeling lost and cynical. Right now, you may be on the verge of saying God doesn't really love me. That is discouragement. So right now, I'm praying that you will break through the bars of satan's discouragement and say, "BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, MY HEART IS GREATER THAN THIS!" It's true! Remember God's promise:

"Hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us." (Romans 5:5)

Our age has been called the **Age of Emptiness**. People buy, smoke, and drink things to fill up the **Emptiness**. People work out, move to Tibet, join the Peace Corps, and make money to fill up the Emptiness. Even Christians feel empty sometimes. The next time you feel like that, rather than trying to fix it, why not just face it and say **BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, MY HEART IS GREATER THAN THIS!**

Jesus' great heart beat on this earth for some thirty-three years. Every beat was a beat of compassion. Every beat was big enough to love the whole world. And when on that old, splintered, blood-stained cross that great heart died, it only paused until it beat again in the Resurrection. Then Jesus' great heart began to beat in the apostles, and in the early church, and in each and every person who saw God in Jesus. And that heart can beat in you and in me. And that's my secret! And your secret too! Shhh! Pass it on!