



Eagle Vision Partner Letter

“The Struggle is Over !”

November 2003

Dear Partner,

Do you struggle to treat people nice when they are treating you wrong? Are you constantly fighting inner feelings of jealousy, offense or unforgiveness? Have you ever said something that you wished you wouldn't have said? In this letter, I am going to discuss how important it is to make sure the condition of your heart is right. The Bible talks a lot about the heart and how what's in your heart is directly related to what's in your life. I am well convinced that the two 'most important things that we as Christians should focus on in our lives are what we allow to enter into or hearts and what we allow to come out of our mouths. These two areas of focus are the master keys to living a life of total prosperity and happiness—prosperity in you home, job, church, spirit, soul and body.

In **Proverbs 4:23** it says to **Keep (Guard) thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.** **Matthew 12:34-35** tells us what comes out of our mouth, originates in our heart. It also says that it is in our hearts “in abundance”, so let's deal with the heart issues.

A lot of times, we as Christians try to change what we say, how we react and what we do without first changing our heart. We struggle to forgive people. We struggle to treat people nice. We struggle to submit to authority. We try hard to be patient and friendly. We try our best to be optimistic and to say the right things. All of these will continue to be a struggle until we first deal with our heart. Our daily desire and prayer should be **Psalm 19:14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.** Our daily goal in life should be to please God, because what He sees is so much more important than what anyone else sees. **We've been trying to change the symptoms without first changing the cause of the symptoms!** All of these “issues” will remain a struggle until we make a change in our heart. The “cause” of these things is the absence of the abundance of the right things in our heart! Aren't you tired of struggling in these and other areas? Haven't you been dealing with these issues long enough? Once we change the case, we will change the results.

In **I Samuel 16:7**, it says **But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.** God is more concerned with what's going on inside of you more than the fake smile you might be wearing to make everyone at work or church think that things are okay. If you found out that someone at your job or church was blessed with the exact thing that you have been in faith to receive (and you have been in faith for a long time)---how would you react---on the inside? You

may smile and say "Praise God, I'm happy for you...etc." but what if everyone could see what you were 'feeling'? Everyone can't see your feelings, but God can and what He sees is what really matters. I am a firm believer that things in life do not have to be a struggle. If Jesus did not struggle with these issues, then we don't have to struggle with these issues. The Word says He was "tempted at all points" not "struggling at all points"!

Now that we have recognized that most 'issues' in our lives are coming from our heart, now do we improve or guard our heart? I'm glad you asked that questions. In **Matthew 15:8**, Jesus is letting us know that people draw nigh with their lips, but their hearts are far from Him. In **John 1:1** we see that in the beginning was the Word and in **verse 14**, it says that Word was made flesh (this is referring to Jesus). Therefore in **Matthew 15:8** Jesus is saying that people's hearts are far from the Word. They weren't following God's Word—His commandments. We obtain a pure heart by first examining the current condition of our heart and being willing to change. After we see the need to change, we need to get God's Word in us through studying and prayer, and then we must make a choice to obey God's Word (**Proverbs 3:1**). We guard (or keep) our heart with all diligence as it says in **Proverbs 4:23**, by meditating on the Word and by being cautious about what we watch, hear, read and think about. (I don't believe David would have committed adultery with Bathsheba if he had stopped looking at her (**II Sam. 11:2-3**). If he had stopped looking and made himself stop thinking about her, it probably would have kept him from committing both adultery and murder!) (**Read Matthew 5:28.**) All of our actions originate from thoughts and a lot of our thoughts come from our heart. We as Christians must constantly keep these areas pure.

Having a pure heart empowers us to prosper (**Matthew 3 5:8**) and keeps us protected from so many things that are not God's best. Keeping a pure heart will dictate (1) who you are and (2) how you live. Let's make a decision right now. Say this aloud—I AM DETERMINED TO STRUGGLE NO MORE! I CHOOSE TO HAVE AND KEEP A PURE HEART!

In His Love & Service,

Deirdre S. Council
Co-Pastor

MINISTRY UPDATE

We held out 1 Year Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, November 16, 2003. Thank you to all who made a special effort and trip to attend! We had an awesome, powerful service!! Special thanks to all of the members who made the anniversary reception happen. There was SO much food and it was very well organized.

During the first year of this ministry we had over 40 people saved/restored and many people healed, delivered and set free by the power of God. We want to express a special thanks to our faithful members, partners and board members for your continued prayers and support. We have a list of goals for this next year and we will get them accomplished with your help. Pastor Harold and I KNOW that God will richly bless you; for all that you do to support us! Have a blessed and relaxing Thanksgiving.