

Don't Harden Your Heart



SERMON TITLE: Do Not Harden Your Heart

KEY TEXT: Hebrews 3:5-15 NKJV

OTHER TEXTS: Exodus 17:1-7 NLT, Genesis 16:1-2 ESV, Exodus 8:15 NKJV, Exodus 15:18-19 NKJV, Proverbs 6:27-29, 32 ESV, Psalm 95:7-11 NKJV

Big Idea: The sermon revolves around the caution against the risk of allowing one's heart to become hardened, as echoed throughout Scripture. It underscores the profound consequences of hard-heartedness, emphasizing its destructive impact on relationships, faith, and spiritual well-being. It highlights the critical importance of heeding warnings from Scripture and resisting misconceptions and unbelief by actively choosing to maintain a soft and receptive heart towards God and others. The sermon also emphasizes the vital role of community and mutual accountability in safeguarding against the deceitfulness of sin. It encourages believers to exhort one another daily to remain steadfast in faith. Ultimately, it calls for a steadfast commitment to hearing God's voice and holding fast to faith, thereby preserving the softness and responsiveness of the heart to God's truth and leading.

In this sermon, Pastor Walker highlights some of the causes of hard-heartedness and points out ways to avoid it.

Hebrews 3:5-15 NKJV

And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end. Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness, where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, and saw My works forty years. Therefore, I was angry with that generation and said, 'They always go astray in their heart, and they have not known My ways.' So, I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.'" Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, while it is said: "Today if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion."

God Bless You!

The Connection Groups Office

Don't Harden Your Heart



A. Start Talking

What's the hardest thing you have had to let go of?

B. Start Thinking

1. Read **Hebrews 3:13 NKJV**. Reflecting on your interactions with fellow Christians.
 - (a) How would you rate the level of encouragement or exhortation you currently receive on a scale of 1-10 (10 being the highest)? What steps can you take to increase the quality and frequency of these interactions in the coming month?
 - (b) How would you rate your contribution in offering encouragement or exhortation on a scale of 1-10 (10 being the highest)? In what ways can you enhance your ability to uplift and support others in their faith journey in the next month?
2. The deceitfulness of sin is highlighted as a factor that hardens the heart. Share a personal experience from your Christian walk where God opened your eyes to the deceptive nature of sin and helped you recognize its consequences. How did this revelation impact your perspective and behaviour? Read **Exodus 8:15 NKJV**
3. Regarding the sermon's emphasis on gratitude and worship, how will you cultivate an attitude of thankfulness toward God in your daily life? In what ways do you express worship beyond formal gatherings, and how can you deepen your worshipful attitude toward God? Read **Ephesians 5:19-21 NKJV**

C. Start Praying

Pray that you will be better at hearing and heeding God's voice, thereby preserving the softness and responsiveness of the heart to God's truth and leading.

D. Start Doing

1. Stop complaining and trust God. He has a good plan for your life.
2. Do not make wrong assumptions about God; discover Him through His word.
3. Actively participate in a Connection Group to give and receive exhortation.
4. Develop an attitude of gratitude and daily worship towards God.

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<https://miraclelifefamily.churchcenter.com/groups>