

## Matthew 6:8

Pure in Heart

*My Secret Heart ...*

### I. A Sacred Place

- A. Sprinkled Clean
- B. Holy Sanctuary
- C. Kept Pure

### II. Of Undivided Devotion

- A. Single-Hearted
- B. Undistracted
- C. Uncompromising
- D. Sincere
- E. Unashamed

### III. Fixed on Christ

- A. Eyes of Faith
- B. Beholding Glory

*... offered to the Lord.*

### **Children, Listen ...**

1. If you belong to God, will you learn to love what He loves?
2. Where do we learn how to love and obey God?
3. We will never be perfect in this life, but should we always seek to do what is good and right?
4. Since the way we think guides the way we act; how can we make sure we are thinking right?
5. In heaven, God's people will only see the glory of the eternal God, but will they also see the Son of God Jesus face to face?

## Sacred Heart - Seeing Eyes

The heart is to be understood figuratively as the hub of our being, our affections, our will – basically who we are minus our physical frames. While our whole person belongs to Christ our heart can be seen as the sanctuary of the temple of our body. It is to be a sacred place in which the Word dwells and the Holy Spirit works. The only way the heart can be made pure is through the blood of Jesus (Hebrews 10:19-22). But the process of purification does not just end there, and it won't until we step into the presence of God at death. Indwelling sin is still an issue and so we are going through the process of sanctification which is defined in our Shorter Catechism as: *the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.* This requires participation on the part of the Christian – we might say it is an intentional pursuit of holiness. This should be our passion because, above everything else in life, we are dedicated to the Lord and His ways. He is holy and He loves what is holy. Jesus promises that the pure in heart will see God. The guarantee that any of us will see the glory of God and the face of Jesus in the next life is entirely based on God's grace to sinners like us through His Son. In the meantime, the more we devote ourselves to the things of God in this life the more clearly we will see that God is ever present and ever at work. We will see His handiwork in creation and His wisdom in providence – we will see evidence of His presence in everyday life – we will be more aware of His blessings – and in times of trial we will know better His comforting presence. Hebrews 12:14 reads: *Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.* By His grace may we see more clearly in this life as we anticipate beholding His glory with unveiled faces in the next.