

The Renovation of Greed

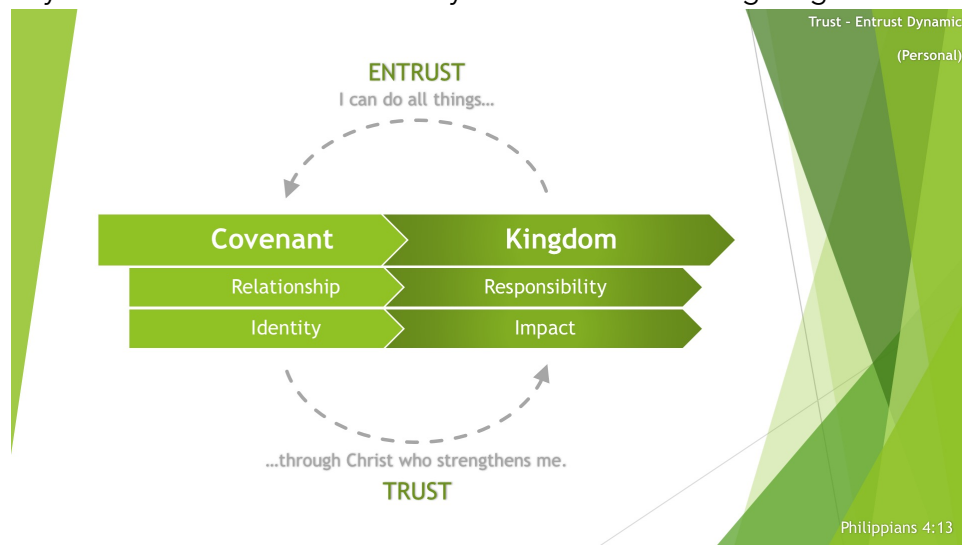
It is so easy for our heart to become captive to something.

1. What was the “must have” thing when you were growing up or going through school? (eg. Digimon, Yo-Yo, Fidget Spinner)

If Jesus’ teachings were just about fixing bad behaviour, he actually made it harder than the law. But the gospel isn’t about sin-management, it’s working from the inside-out.

2. What have been your experiences of *trying to be a better Christian* through behaviour change? What is the difference between behaviour change and a renovated heart?

In your discussion consider the dynamic of the following diagram:



Read: Matthew 6:19-21

3. Jesus makes a direct connection between what we treasure and our heart. When you consider where you direct your time, resources and energy - what would you say you treasure?

Read: Matthew 6:22-23

A “good/healthy eye” and a “bad/evil eye” were *actually* Rabbinic idioms - a “good eye” meant that you were generous, and a “bad eye” meant that you were stingy. *Read the passage again with this in mind.*

4. In what areas of your life do you feel you have a “good eye” (are generous)?
5. In what areas of your life do you feel you have a “bad eye” (are stingy)?

Sir Fred Catherwood is quoted as saying: “*Greed is the logical result of the belief that there is no life after death.*”

6. How does Jesus’ conquering of death connect with our attitude toward our resources and our freedom to be generous?

Action Step: Remember, the goal isn’t to be “less greedy” - a renovation of the heart takes it to a new level: consider performing an act of ridiculous generosity - just as Christ gave us the example of.