

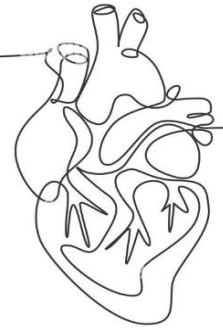
# SOFT HEARTS SAY...



Retief Uys  
19 November 2023

**“It is imperative that we do not become numb.”**

# SOFT HEARTS



- **Our hearts are:** Thoughts or feelings; the seat of our most basic orientation, our deepest commitments — what we trust the most
- It is what we most love and hope in, what we most treasure, what captures our imagination.
- Natural condition wicked, we need salvation and ***new heart / Jesus***

**Proverbs 4:23** Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

**Hearts are hard when:** Like the world → lust, greediness, ‘more and more’, pride... **[Ephesians 4]**

# THE SOFT HEART . . .

**Has the Fear of God**

**Loves the Word**

**Forgives**

**Dead to self and selfless**

**Builds the Kingdom**

**Trusts God**

**Is humble**

**Seeks Jesus in ALL**

**Heart that Prays**

**Do not judge unjustly**

**Repents**

**Loves**

**Allows grace to flow**

**Thankful and content**

**Walks in the Light**

**Regards others higher**

**Obedient to Jesus**

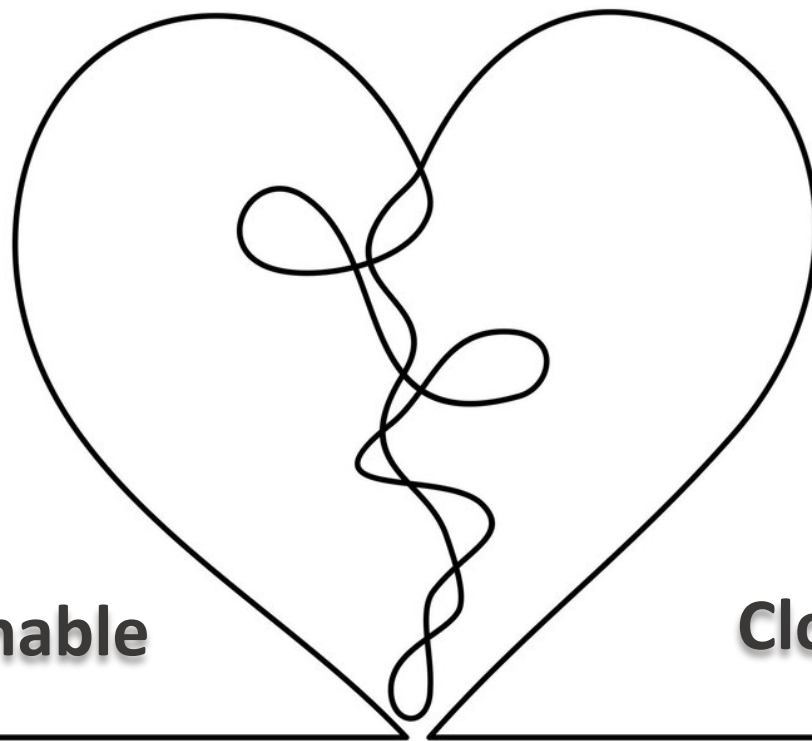
**Bears the fruit of the Spirit**

**Led by the Holy Spirit**

**Walks in accountability**

**Submissive and teachable**

**Close to God**





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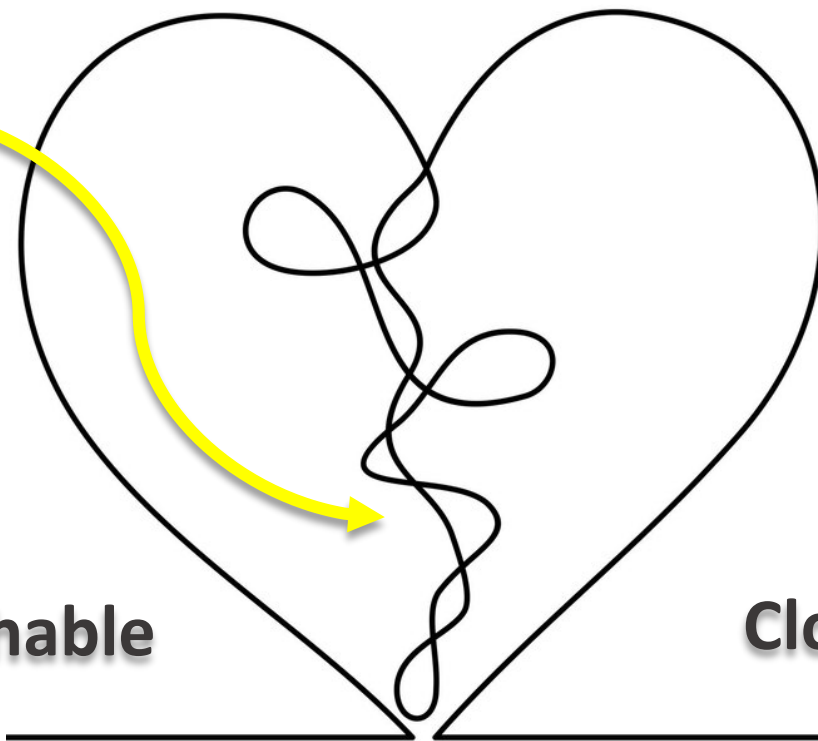
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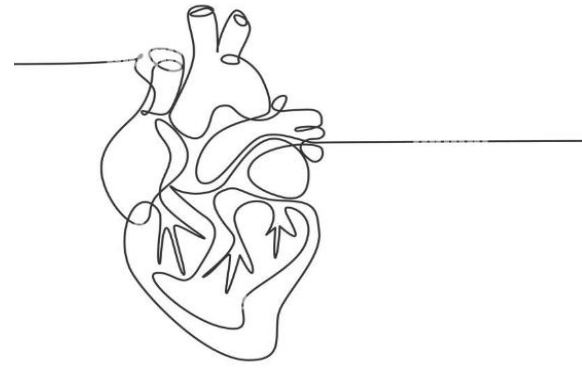
**Close to God**



"Let us thank God heartily as often as we pray that we have His Spirit in us to teach us to pray. Thanksgiving will draw our hearts out to God and keep us engaged with Him; it will take our attention from ourselves and give the Spirit room in our hearts." - Andrew Murray

**SOFT HEARTS**





# This time of the year...

**Genesis 3** | The serpent's ways

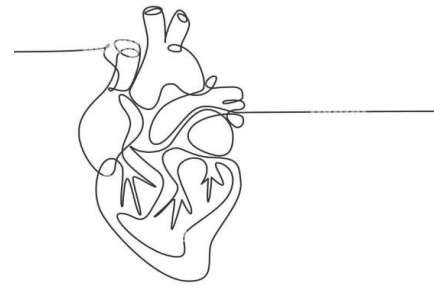
**Proverbs 13:12 NKJV**

Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but when the desire comes, it is a tree of life.

**Proverbs 4:23 NIV** Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.



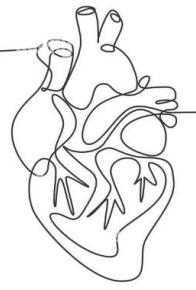
# 1. Hearts and Mouths:



**Referring to the tongue → James 3:9** With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. 10 From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. 11 Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water?

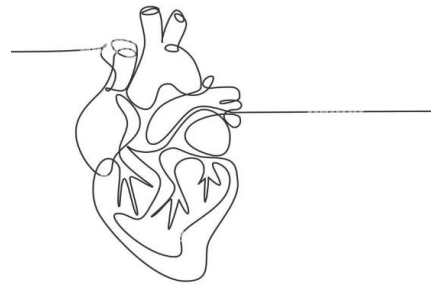
**#1 A soft heart of thanksgiving makes no place for cursing, criticizing, malicious speaking and slander...**

**Mark 7:14** Summoning the crowd again, He told them, “Listen to Me, all of you, and understand: 15 Nothing that goes into a person from outside can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him. 16 If anyone has ears to hear, he should listen!” 17 When He went into the house away from the crowd, the disciples asked Him about the parable. 18 And He said to them, “Are you also as lacking in understanding? Don’t you realize that nothing going into a man from the outside can defile him? 19 For it doesn’t go into his heart but into the stomach and is eliminated.” (As a result, He made all foods clean.) 20 Then He said, “What comes out of a person—that defiles him. 21 For from within, out of people’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immoralities, thefts, murders, 22 adulteries, greed, evil actions, deceit, promiscuity, stinginess, blasphemy, pride, and foolishness. 23 All these evil things come from within and defile a person.”



**#2 A soft heart of thanksgiving keeps us undefiled, free from sin and keeps us righteous through faith – which leads to life**





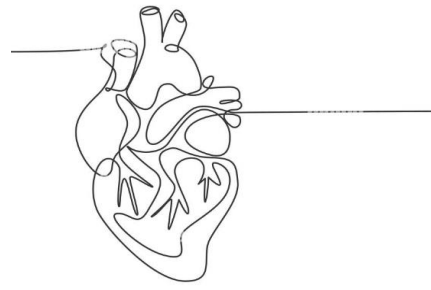
## **Proverbs 18:21 KJV**

Death and life are in the power of the tongue: And they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

So, we should...

**WATCH WHAT WE SAY**

## 2. Soft Hearts Say THANK YOU:



**Point is clear:** After a long tough year, with its challenges and hurts, the enemy is out to lure us into ungodly partnership. Ungodly agreements. He comes with deception, death and hardness...

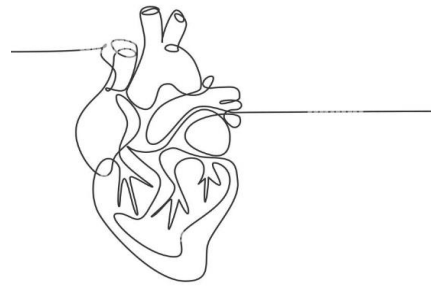
## WE COUNTER WITH THANKSGIVING I partnering with God

### 1. Thanksgiving is a command:

**1 Thessalonians 5:16** Rejoice always! **17** Pray constantly. **18** Give thanks in everything, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

## 1 Thessalonians 5:16

Rejoice always! 17 Pray constantly. 18 Give thanks in everything, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.



**AMP** 16 Rejoice always and delight in your faith; 17 be unceasing and persistent in prayer; 18 in every situation [no matter what the circumstances] be thankful and continually give thanks to God; for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.

## 2. Thanksgiving acknowledges the haves and not the have nots:

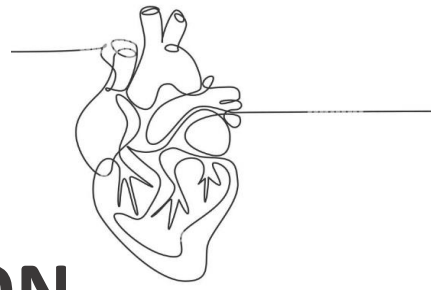
In a culture of more and more...

Practical

Holy Spirit moves with truth and praise



### 3. Thanksgiving lives from a greater reality:



Thankfulness is not mere reaction, thankfulness is **an ACTION**

Thankfulness is not always natural – sometimes counter intuitive

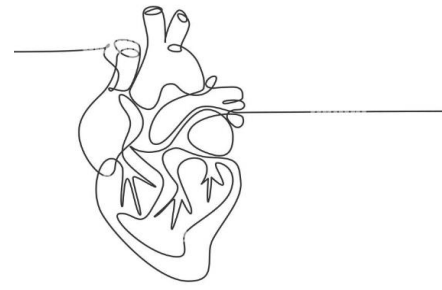
Thankfulness is a fruit of character!

**2 Corinthians 5:7** For we live by faith, not by sight.

#### 3.1 Spirit fight:

**Ephesians 6:12** For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

**Battle won in the spirit with His truth**



## 3.2 Please Note:

This is not mere new age positive thinking or illusions or ignorance and avoidance.

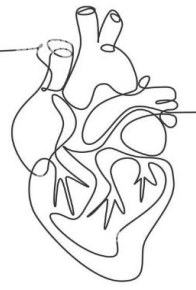
This is faith and hope of a greater reality

**NB Thanksgiving:** It does not deny the issue or the problem, it limits its influence and effect

Not deny the problem's existence, but its influence

#### 4. Thanksgiving knows and understands God's character:

**1 Chronicles 16:34** Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; His love endures forever.



**We have HISTORY I I know Him!**

#### 5. Thanksgiving aligns with grace and contentment:

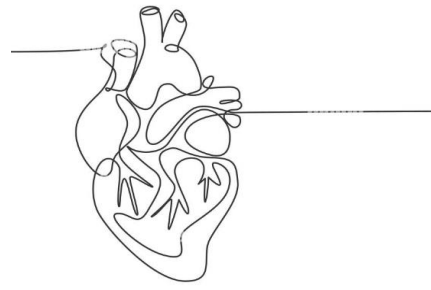
Again, a matter of faith:

**Philippians 4:6-7** Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**PEACE**



## 6. Thanksgiving is also prophecy:



Prophetic in nature! Calls the future into being.

Romans 10:17

## 7. Thanksgiving keeps the heart soft:

I know God...

**Romans 8:28** And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

**I trust Him!**

# GOD IS NOT DONE YET

## SOFT HEARTS



new  
LIFE



# SOFT HEARTS Prayer

