

Transformation of the Whole Person
Authentic Leader Series – Part 1
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For this series of talks, Dallas has been assigned the theme of *The Authentic Pastor* or *The Authentic Leader*. He tells the group that he will address leadership and pastoring, but that, basically, he will be talking about *The Authentic Person*. He begins by reading and discussing specific Scriptures that will provide a background for his talk.

1. Background Scriptures

a. Proverbs 4:23

Watch over your heart with all diligence, because what your life is comes from your heart.

➤ Dallas encourages us to make this verse our companion.

Your heart is basically your _____. The heart is at the _____ of your being as a person.

You are a _____ spiritual being, and that creativity is your will. That's how you are in the image of God.

God is an _____ being. He is fundamentally _____ will, and that's who you are. You are creative will and your creativity is founded in your _____, which is your little _____ pack that God has given you to build a life from and to join Him in His kingdom.

Keep your heart. What is it in you that determines your choices? Cultivate it. Watch it. Train it. That's the secret!

b. 1 Timothy 4:16

Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and those who hear you. (NASB)

Here that same emphasis is on the _____ person.

c. Matthew 7:17-18

So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.

Make the tree good!



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When we talk about the depths of the being, we're talking about the inside from which **everything comes**. For the tree, that's the inner nature of the tree. When the tree has the _____ of an orange tree, it doesn't have any problem producing oranges. It is in great trouble if it has to produce apples, but producing oranges – no problem. Why? Because the inside is an orange. **That's the key to understanding issues about authenticity, the spiritual life, and spiritual formation.**

What do we mean when we speak of spiritual formation? We mean the _____ of the heart. The forming of the heart so that the deeds of _____ *naturally* come forth from that person.

d. 1 Corinthians 9:24-27: The role of training in the transformation of the heart

Do you not know that they which run in a race run all, all of them run, but only one wins? So run that you may win. And every man that strives for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

"...And every man that strives for mastery is temperate in all things...." The discipline of measuring _____ and _____ is moderate in all things, temperate in all things.

"...Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we for incorruptible...." In other words, I know what I'm doing. I'm very _____. I'm very conscious of my actions, of my training, of my care for myself. This is something that is right on the front burner for Paul constantly.

The idea is of discipline, of training, of dealing with your body, of how you take care of your heart.

- Satan knows that if he can rob us of that, he has _____ God's purposed in our actual existence. The devil works at the idea level. The idea of discipline, of training, or dealing with your body, of taking care of your heart has been ruined for the Church. Satan creates an ideational block.
- We live at the mercy of our _____, and the idea system is where Satan works. When Satan got ready to go after Eve, he hit her with an idea – *Has God really said?...*

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- Satan works at the _____ level and at the _____ level.
- Paul understood this perfectly; when you look at Paul's behavior, you see a man who acted like Jesus. Paul is a little guy who comes into town without an entourage. He does not require support. He gets a job and starts to work. And he has a word that is so mighty that he doesn't need anything else but to speak it.
- He had a great sense of humor about life because he was so thoroughly positioned in his _____ with the _____.

2. Who is the authentic person?

a. Luke 10:27

And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."

That's the insides of the authentic person. They love with heart, soul, mind, and strength. Strength refers to your _____. You should love God with your body. The place most of us get into most of our troubles is with our body – not because the body is evil, but because our body is where we live from. Fundamentally we live from our _____, and our feelings inhabit our bodies.

- Four factors that determine where your actions come from:
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____

If you love your neighbor as yourself, you don't have anything to hide. You won't need to pretend about anything or mislead anyone. You will not be filled with fear because love will have _____ fear (1 John 4:18). There begins to be a transformation.

You just love people as you do yourself. That's the *second* command because you can't do that unless you *first* love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength.

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3. What's the problem?

The problem is that there is a force that is really present throughout your personality and, particularly, in your _____ determines the actual course of your life. Apart from redemption, that force pulls you down. But your faith draws you up. In this way, your life is diverging. False expectations, both of the individual and those around them, make the pressure even stronger.

There's an image of what we ought to be and, then, there's the reality of what we are. If we cannot bring these two together, we are condemned to a life of hypocrisy, futility, inauthenticity, and powerlessness.

Matthew 23:15 *Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.*

Matthew 23:13 *But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.*

The problem is overcoming this and becoming the persons that we aspire to be as the people of Jesus. This won't happen by just believing. The power against us is too great.

Romans 7:19 *For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do.*

The things that are done that you would not do are done before you think about it. These are epidermal responses. They're just right there. When you see Peter denying Christ, those are epidermal responses. Peter believed in the power of intention. He said he was not going to run. But, when the moment came, his legs took off and took the rest of him along. That's _____ response.

That's what Paul means when he speaks of the motions of sin that are in our members.

Romans 7:5 *For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death.*

It's what we're ready to do, what our jaws and our legs and our bodily parts will do
_____.

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4. The solution is transformation.

The first step in getting on top of this is, when it happens, you don't just let it run.

You identify the epidermal response and go back and ask yourself:

- Why did this happen?
- What should I do?
- What should I be like so that this won't happen again?
- **And you begin to work on the deeper levels of the self.**

A disciplined person is a person who can do what needs to be done when it needs to be done.

An undisciplined person is not able to do what needs to be done.

When you think of loving God with all your strength, just think of loving God with all the "readinesses" that are in your body.

The task is to get all of those things that divide us and bring them to _____ and let him direct us into ways of living that will change us throughout – especially at the level of our epidermal responses.

- What makes life complicated is the _____ between these two – my body is running in one direction and my profession is running in another and my heart is running in another.

In Matthew 26:38, Jesus asks Peter, James, and John to come and be with him while he prays. They go to sleep. Jesus does not scold them; he teaches them. He says (verse 41), "The _____ indeed is willing, but the _____ is weak." That's a diagnosis – a comment about *their* flesh.

- He's telling them that the flesh is not on the side of their spirit.
- Their spirit, their intention, their heart, was "We will not deny you; we will die for you; we will not betray you." But they are caught in the flesh, and Jesus knew that.
- You start with your _____, setting it in the right direction, and you bring your _____ on the side of the Spirit.

The biblical view is not that flesh is bad. Flesh is good.

- Flesh consists of the _____ of the human being, the embodied social person.
- Flesh is basically what you can do without the direct intervention of God.
- Psalm 84:2 *My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.*
- Joel 2:28 *I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh.*
- Flesh is good. It's God's creation.

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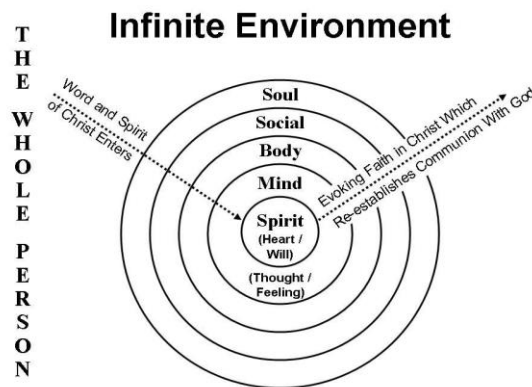
What we want to do is evict all that bad stuff that has come to live in the flesh. And God will help us with that because we don't have to do it on our own. We couldn't do it on our own if we wanted to.

So, as we gradually replace the natural, or epidermal, responses with the responses of Christ, we gradually bring together the image of who we ought to be and the image of who we really are.

- You cannot deal with this by _____. That makes hypocrites.
- What we're after here is not repression, but _____.
- Your willpower cannot handle this.

Jesus' teachings are all directed at dealing with these things at the level where they are manageable. You begin dealing with it (anger, lust, covetousness, desire in all its many forms) before it becomes a fire. You don't want to repress it; you want to get rid of it. What you have to do is transform that desire.

This is a picture of you:



The innermost part is your heart, your will, your spirit. This is what you want to give all diligence to keep. It's the very center part where _____ are made.

Then you have a mind, and that's bigger than your will.

Your body is bigger than your mind, your emotions, and your thoughts.

And then there is the social realm. The social realm goes out beyond your body.

The soul is like the computer that runs the whole show. Your soul goes far beyond your body. The _____ is the organizing principle of your whole life.

You are not a body. You are a non-physical being that inhabits a body.