

## Discussion Guide: Love God Wholeheartedly

*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42 (NIV)*

**November 24, 2002:** "Love God Wholeheartedly" by Reese Kauffman, President of Child Evangelism Fellowship, Inc. Reading from 1Chronicles 28:1-21, Reese guided us along a journey of "thinking about our hearts."

When Jesus said, in Matthew 22:37-39 that we are to, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" and "Love your neighbor as yourself"... what does it mean...with all your heart? Paul in Ephesians 6:5 encourages us to serve God with sincerity of heart...doing the will of God from your heart. What does this mean? In Chronicles 28:9-10, David challenges his son Solomon, as he takes over the leadership of the nation as the next king...

"And you, my son Solomon, acknowledge the God of your father, and serve him with wholehearted devotion and with a willing mind, for the LORD searches every heart and understands every motive behind the thoughts. If you seek him, he will be found by you; but if you forsake him, he will reject you forever. Consider now, for the LORD has chosen you to build a temple as a sanctuary. Be strong and do the work."

What is your heart, in the context of God's Word? It is the core, or center, of your being. It is the "real" you...from which springs your motives, thoughts, attitudes and actions. Man looks on the outside, but God knows the heart...and responds based on motives.

**Reese's Challenge.** God continually looks throughout the whole earth for those whose hearts are fully committed to him and willing to serve him wholeheartedly<sup>1</sup>. And, when he finds them, he challenges them to be strong and courageous and do the work, and then surrounds them with people and resources to help them get their job done<sup>2</sup>.

### Discussion Questions:

- As God chose Solomon to build the temple, what has he chosen you to build<sup>3</sup>?
- For what tasks has God surrounded you with people and resources to help you get the job done?
- Are you fully committed and devoted wholeheartedly to God and the mission he has set before you?
  - For what tasks are you so committed?
  - For what tasks would you like to be more committed?
  - How may we as a group support you in your quest?

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<sup>1</sup> II Chronicles 16:9

<sup>2</sup> I Chronicles 28:19-20

<sup>3</sup> Ephesians 2:19-22 and 4:1-13, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 and 14:11-13, 1 Thessalonians 5:11