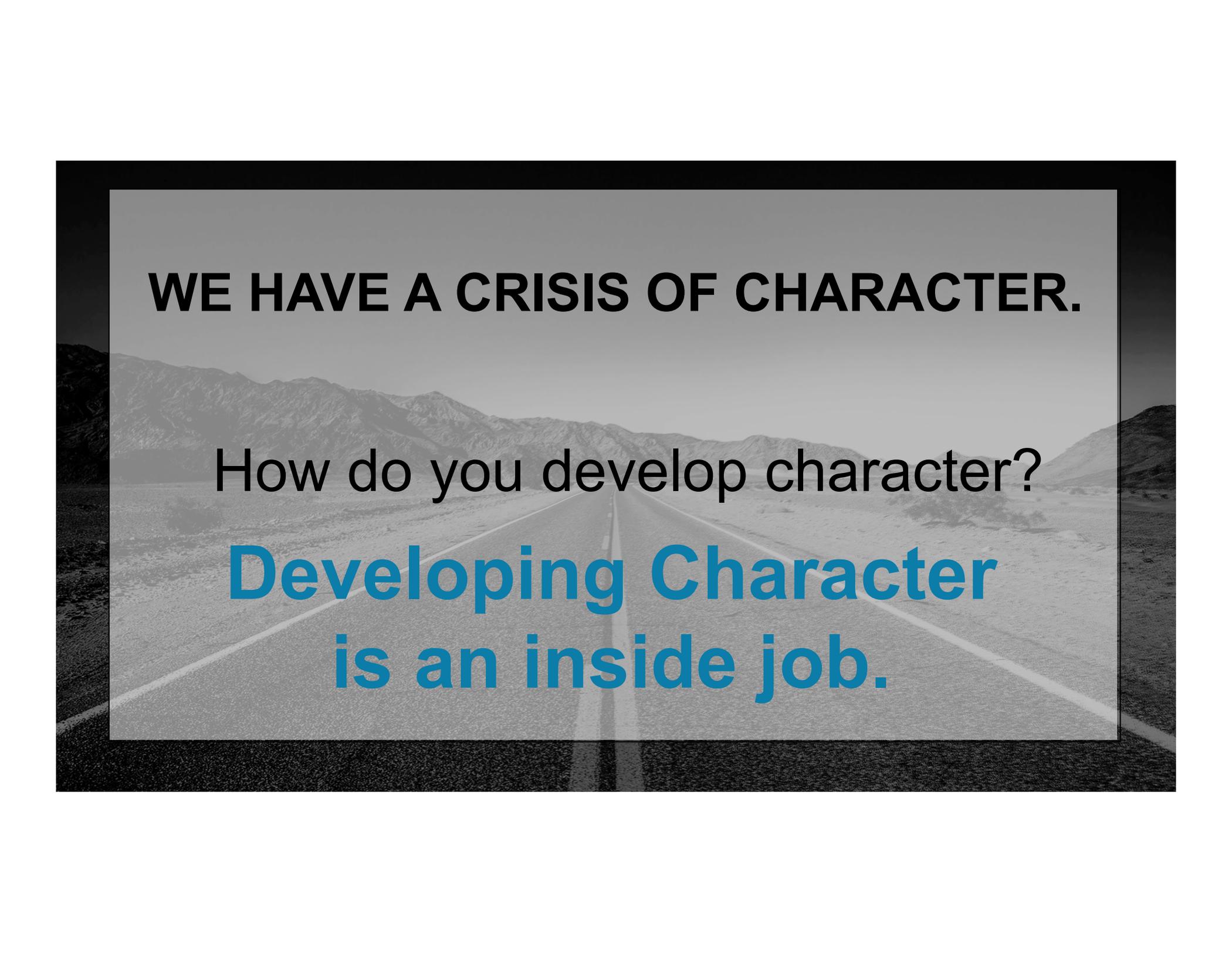




CHARACTER OF A LEADER
D e c l a r i n g H e a l t h y H e a r t s



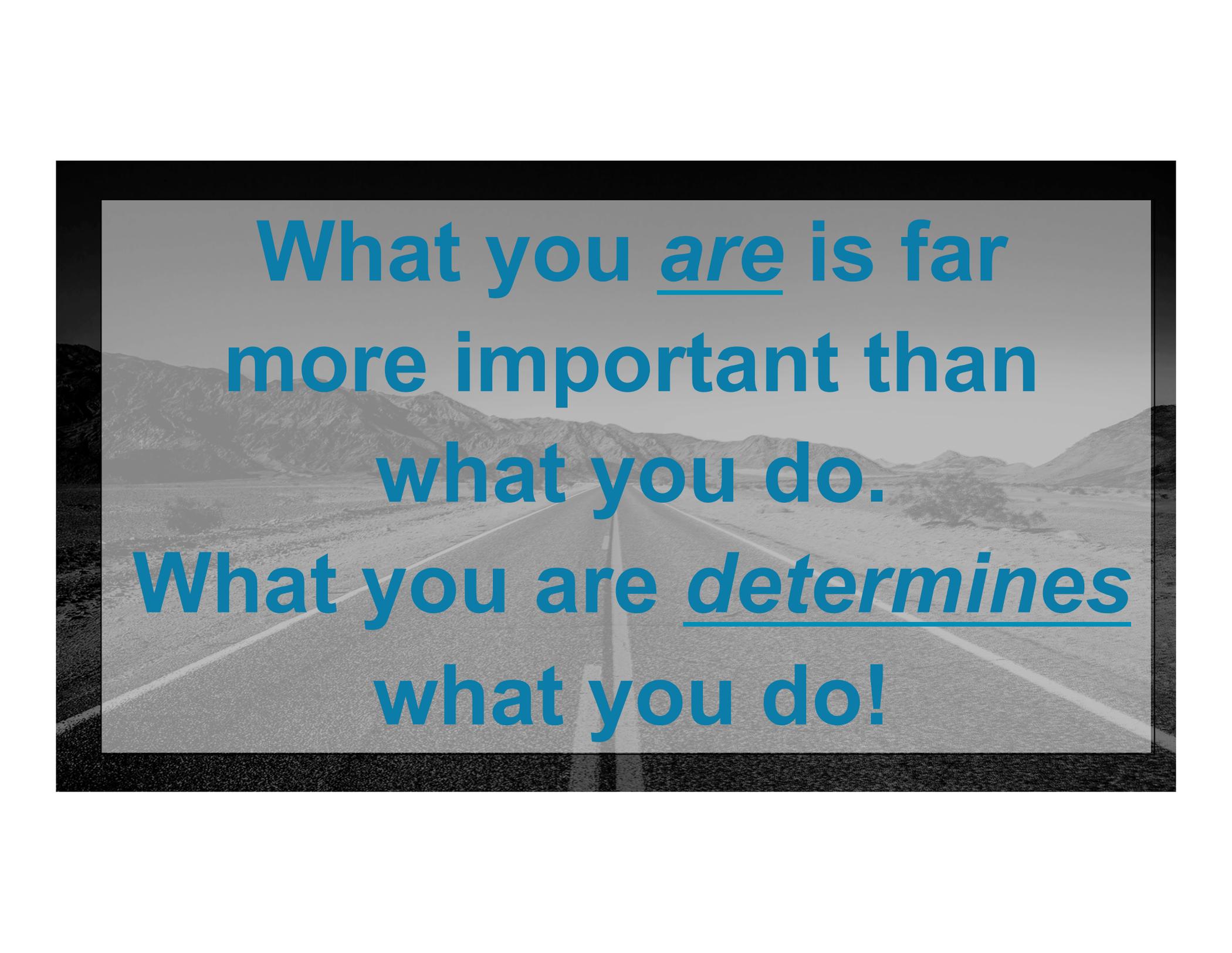
GATHERING OF MEN | FEBRUARY 1, 2017
THE TOLSON GROUP . COM



WE HAVE A CRISIS OF CHARACTER.

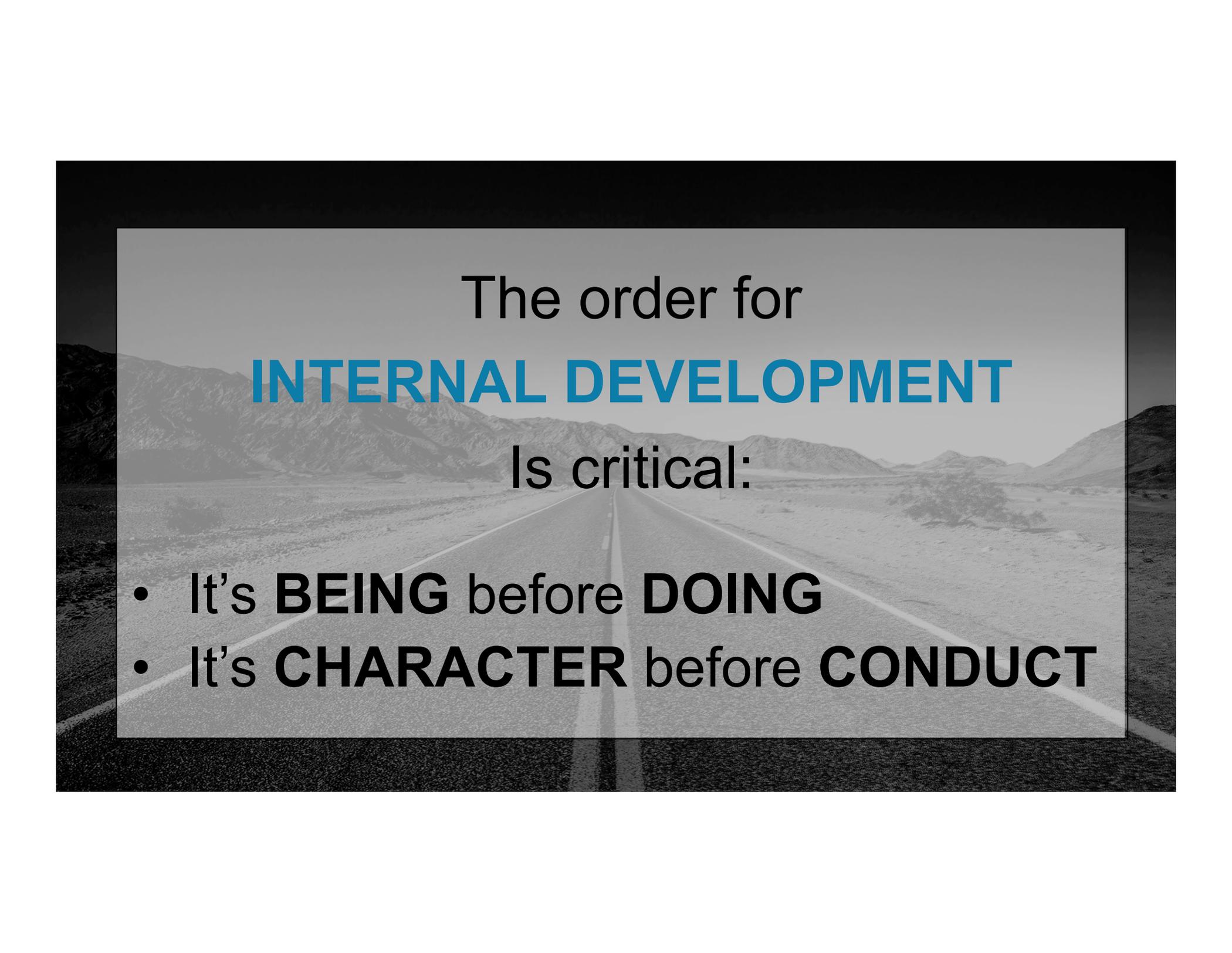
How do you develop character?

**Developing Character
is an inside job.**



**What you are is far
more important than
what you do.**

**What you are determines
what you do!**



The order for
INTERNAL DEVELOPMENT

Is critical:

- It's **BEING** before **DOING**
- It's **CHARACTER** before **CONDUCT**



Jesus desires to prepare us to make
a difference in the society in which
we live.

**THE NEW PLAN IS
THE NEW PERSON**



8 Secrets of Spiritual Success

Spiritual Secret #1

Matthew 5:3

“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is The Kingdom of Heaven...”

Spiritual Secret #2

Matthew 5:4

“Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.”

Spiritual Secret #3

Matthew 5:5

“Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.”

Spiritual Secret #4

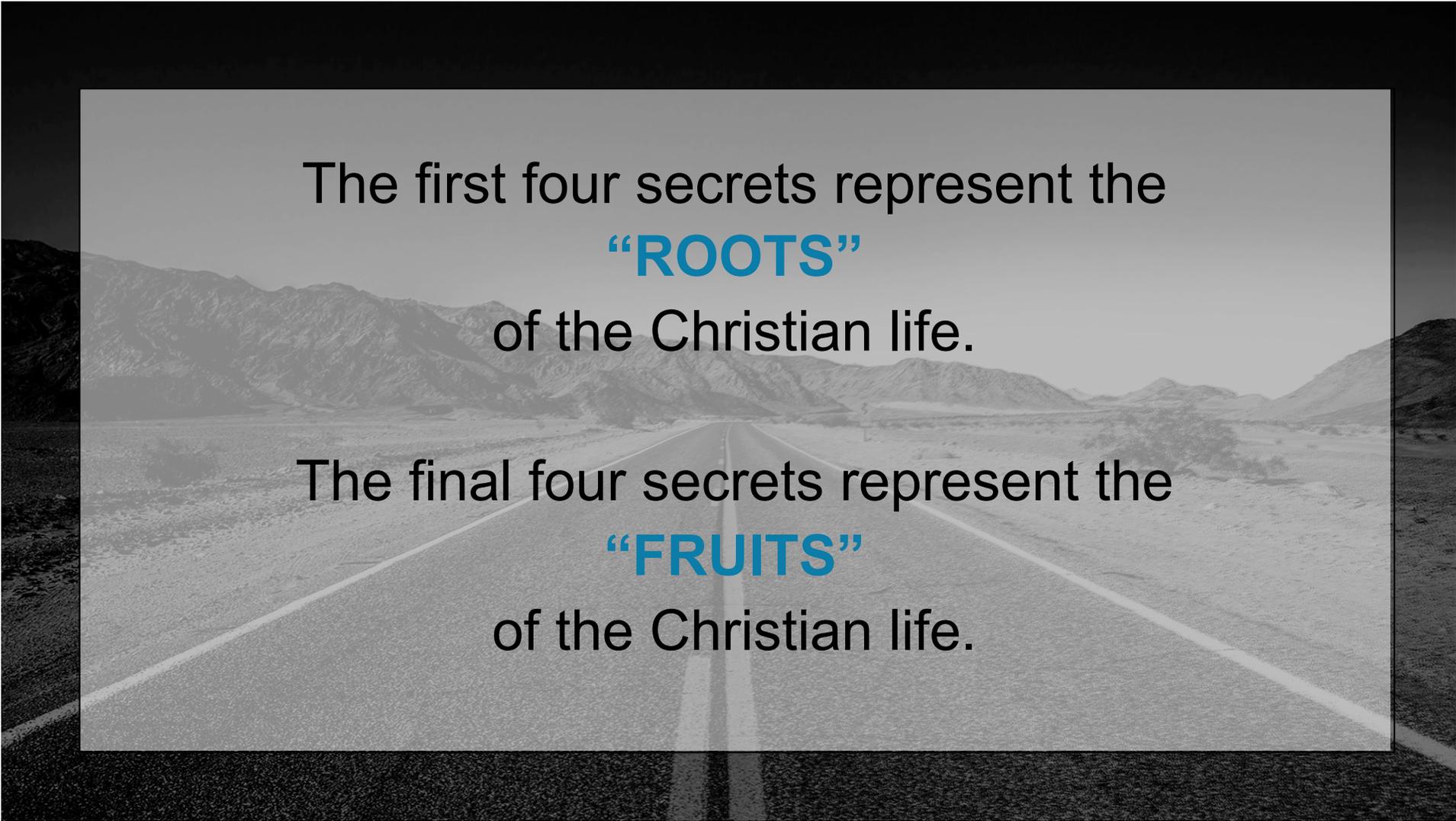
Matthew 5:6

“Blessed are those who hunger
and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.”

Spiritual Secret #5

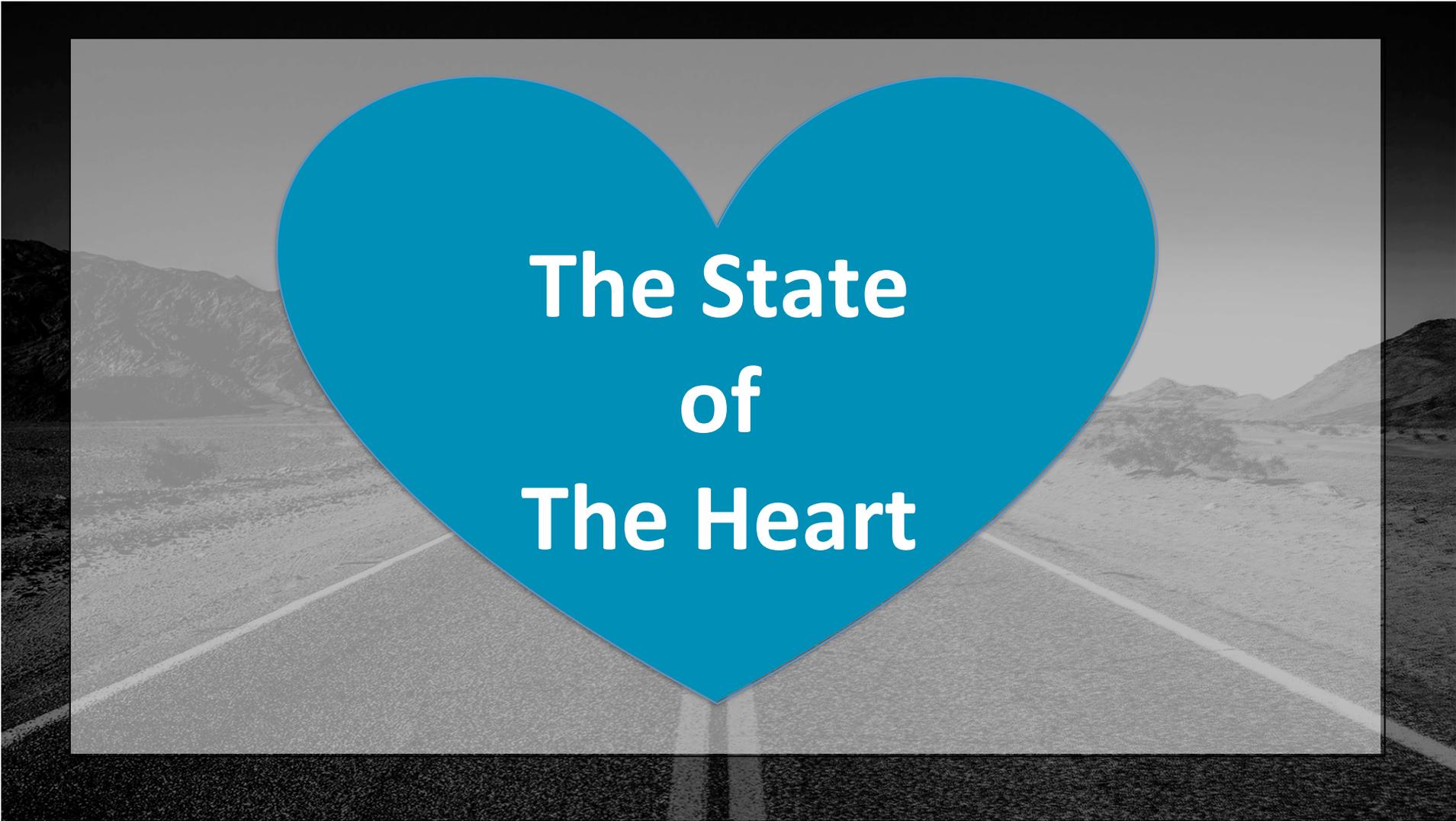
Matthew 5:7

“Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.”



The first four secrets represent the
“ROOTS”
of the Christian life.

The final four secrets represent the
“FRUITS”
of the Christian life.



**The State
of
The Heart**

Spiritual Secret #6

Matthew 5:8

“Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God.”



Spiritual Secret #6

I. The Context

- Matthew 5:8 requires an “inside job”
- What is God’s Standard
 - **I Peter 1:16** – *“For the Scriptures say, ‘You must be holy because I am holy.’”*
 - **Matthew 5:48** – *“But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.”*

Spiritual Secret #6

II. The Position

- Where does God look as He observes a man?
- **I Samuel 16:7** – *“But the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Don’t judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn’t see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.’”*

Spiritual Secret #6

III. The Meaning

- The world system says: Blessed are the...
 - Adult
 - Sophisticated
 - Broad-minded

Spiritual Secret #6

A. “Heart”

- The heart, Biblically speaking, is the seat of the mind, will and emotions
 - It refers primarily to the mind (thinking) and will (decisions)

Spiritual Secret #6

- **Proverbs 23:7** – *They are always thinking about how much it costs. “Eat and drink,” they say, but they don’t mean it.*
- **Proverbs 4:23** – *Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.*

Spiritual Secret #6

1. The Physical Heart

- It is crucial to life.
- If it goes out, you go out!

2. The Spiritual Heart

- Jeremiah 17:9
- Mark 7:15, 21, 22
- Psalm 51:10

Spiritual Secret #6

Jeremiah 17:9

“The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?”

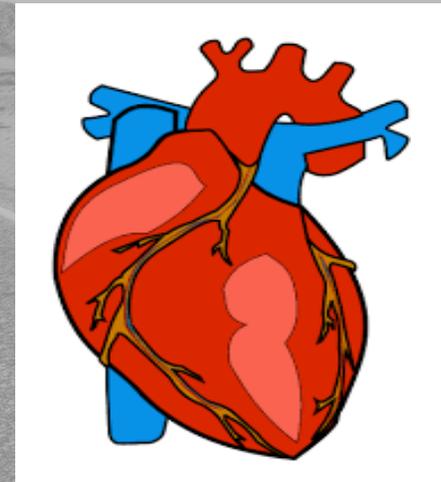
Spiritual Secret #6

Psalm 51:10

*Create in me a clear heart, O God.
Renew a loyal spirit within me.*

The Human Heart

- A powerful muscle
- Pumps blood
- With each compression, it pumps 2-2.5 ounces of blood
- 70 beats per minute
- Pumps 4-5 quarts per minute
- In 70 years, beats 2.5 billion times plus 165 million quarts of blood
- Weights $\frac{1}{2}$ pound
- Size = clinched fist



The world says if we provide more education and a better living standard, people will be better.

Remember.....
the fall occurred
in Paradise.

Spiritual Secret #6

B. Pure

- Jesus is saying:

I desire a heart that is unmixed in its devotion and motivation. Pure motives from a pure heart.

Spiritual Secret #6

B. Pure

- Pure means “*singleness of heart*”
- Pure in heart means “*utterly sincere*”

Spiritual Secret #6

IV. The Method

- How do we become “*pure in heart?*”
 - A. Receive Jesus Christ into your life
 - When you do, you are given:
 - Positional purity
 - Actual purity
 - B. Decide to Follow Jesus
 - C. Desire practical purity

Spiritual Secret #6

D. When failure comes, and it will,
remember.... I John 1:9

*But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful
and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us
from all wickedness.*

***When you are pure & clean & forgiven...
there is nothing to hide!***

Spiritual Secret #6

V. The Promise

- *“They shall see God...”*

**Your perception of God is
clarified by the purity of
your heart.**

Spiritual Secret #6

V. The Promise

- *“They shall see God...”*
- To see God means:
 - You will see God work...
 - You will see Him at work in your life...
 - You will sense His presence...
 - You will dream His dreams...

Spiritual Secret #6

Matthew 5:8

“Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God.”

