

Answer Key

Our faith expresses a relationship between the HEART and HEAD.

THE HEART

- Theology is a LIVED exercise.
- A faith of the heart is a disposition toward a God of PREVENIENT GRACE.

WHY WE NEED THE HEAD, TOO

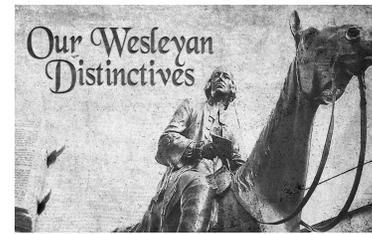
- A faith of the heart welcomes spiritual PRUNING.
- A faith of the heart invites a degree of SELF-EXAMINATION.

THE HEAD

- Faith does not negate the gifts of human CURIOSITY and INTELLECT.
- Our Wesleyan roots go back to their most primitive form—CAMPUS MINISTRY.
- REASON is the manner in which what we know about the world round us can help vivify our beliefs and approaches to interpreting Scripture.

WHY WE NEED THE HEART, TOO

- We cannot allow knowledge to become a source of UNBRIDLED POWER.
- Knowledge will never adequately capture the FULLNESS of God.



sermon notes

The Heart and the Head
October 27, 2019
Pastor Ryan LaRock
CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/SERMONS

Our faith expresses a relationship between the _____ and _____.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.

Matthew 22:37 (NRSV)

THE HEART

- Theology is a _____ exercise.
- A faith of the heart is a disposition toward a God of _____.

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Mark 10:13–16 (NRSV)

WHY WE NEED THE HEAD, TOO

- A faith of the heart welcomes spiritual _____.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

Psalms 51:1–4 (NRSV)

- A faith of the heart invites a degree of _____.

THE HEAD

- Faith does not negate the gifts of human _____ and _____.

“Is there a doubt concerning the meaning of what I read? Does anything appear dark or intricate?...I then search after and consider parallel passages of Scripture...If any doubt still remains, I consult those who are experienced in the things of God, and then the writing whereby, being dead, they yet speak.”

John Wesley, *Preface to Sermons*

- Our Wesleyan roots go back to their most primitive form—_____.
- _____ is the manner in which what we know about the world round us can help vivify our beliefs and approaches to interpreting Scripture.

“If, therefore, you have any regard to justice, render unto all their due. Give liberty to whom liberty is due, that is, to every child of [humankind], to every partaker of human nature.”

John Wesley, *Thoughts upon Slavery* (1774)

WHY WE NEED THE HEART, TOO

- We cannot allow knowledge to become a source of _____.

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:1–2 (NRSV)

“Let all you that have it in your power assert the right which the God of nature has given you. Yield not to that vile bondage any longer. You, as well as men, are rational creatures. You, like them, were made in the image of God; you are equally candidates for immortality; you too are called of God...”

John Wesley, “On Visiting the Sick”

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

*You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.*

*You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.*

*Even before a word is on my tongue,
O Lord, you know it completely.*

*You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.*

***Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.***

Psalm 139:1–6 (NRSV)

- Knowledge will never adequately capture the _____ of God.

Sources Consulted: John Wesley, “On Visiting the Sick,” *Preface to Sermons*, and *Thoughts upon Slavery*; Russell Richey et al., *The Methodist Experience in America*, Randy Maddox, *Responsible Grace: John Wesley’s Practical Theology*, Kenneth Carder, *Living Our Beliefs*