

Pay Attention

BY ELIZABETH RHYNO | FEBRUARY 14, 2019

When Esther's eunuchs and female attendants came and told her about Mordechai, she was in great distress. (Est. 4:4)

SHE NOTICED STELLA'S DOWNCAST expression as soon as she arrived at work that morning. Her usually bubbly coworker seemed to carry an unusual **weight about her that day, and she wasn't really speaking with anyone as she went about her work.** When Adair asked around if anyone knew whether Stella was okay, nobody else seemed to have noticed.

Adair looked for ways to come alongside Stella when she could—grabbing her a coffee, bringing papers from the copier, and fielding some complaints in her **place. But it wasn't until she plunked herself down beside Stella in the lunchroom that she really took in the gravity of the situation.** Stella looked at her with **bloodshot eyes and opened up about her son's recent diagnosis.** And, though Adair didn't have any wise words for her in that moment, the empathy she **showed as she held Stella's hand and listened spoke grace to her friend.**

God has made us for community, and he has placed us alongside people who need true friendships. His Spirit in us can give us the discernment to notice when people are hurting and need a listening ear and the courage to offer ourselves. And sometimes our empathy is the most generous gift we can offer. Who are the people in your life you can listen to today?

Offer friendship to the people
around you.

*Elizabeth Rhyno is a wife, mom, and worship leader.
Elizabeth chooses to pursue the Lord and trust his
plans are perfect at all times.*

February 17, 2019

Sermon Notes:

1. Solomon had a “_____” kind of heart

1 Kings 10:14-16

1 Kings 10:18-20

1 Kings 3:10-13

1 Kings 10:22-29

Deuteronomy 17:16-19

2. Solomon's heart was no longer _____ to God

Matthew 6:19-21

1 Kings 14:25-26

3. Where our treasure is, there our _____ is also

Matthew 6:22-24

4. The Macedonians had

“_____” hearts

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

Reflection: What is one new thing you believe God spoke to you today as a result of worshipping at FOCUS?

The Word of God directs us as we consider what the **next step** is for our lives. What is the present health of your heart? Do you have a generous “giving” heart or a heart that is bent toward “getting more”? Do you believe that God is capable of changing and transforming your heart if you surrender to Him? If this is your desire the first step is to fully give your entire self to the Lord Jesus.

Challenge: This week I will pray for the following areas of the persecuted Church:

Communion at FOCUS

Every Sunday at FOCUS we celebrate the **Lord's Table**, also known as **Communion**. We have open communion which means all are invited to receive. We receive communion elements by intinction. Tearing off a small piece of the loaf of bread, dipping it in the communion glass of juice, and then consuming it immediately. Please note, upon your request, we also have gluten free elements for those with gluten and other major food allergies.

FOCUS Small Groups

Are you interested in connecting with others throughout the week? We have several Small Groups already meeting and some preparing to start additional groups. Here are the groups already gathering during the week:

~ **Women's Group** - 11 AM Wednesdays - Upbeat Café

~ **Men's Group** - 11 AM Wednesdays - Upbeat Café

~ **Women's Life Group** - Wednesday Evenings 7 PM - **Life Group member's Home**, Sadieville, KY

~ Tentatively starting this week:
Youth Small Group - afterschool at Chick-fil-a, Georgetown, day and time TBD

*For more information about joining or starting a small group please contact Pastor Anton. afolz@focuswesleyan.org or 502-369-2096

**STEM - April 6, 2019 - 8 AM
- 4 PM Save the Date**



FOCUS
WESLEYAN CHURCH

**At FOCUS we exist to;
Worship God,
Live for Jesus,
Love all People,
and Serve the World.**

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