

Review:

Relational desire: an intimate, life-giving, character-shaping relationship that has a rugged commitment to one another.

Relational Intelligence/Wisdom: The _____ of navigating relationships _____.

- It is NOT merely the acquisition of knowledge.
- It is the proper application of the right knowledge.

There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.

Proverbs 14:12 (NIV)

The challenge with relational intelligence:

- It is _____.
- It is _____.

America's relational anthem:

Follow your _____.

Two underlying beliefs of "follow your heart":

1. Your _____ are the best guide for making relational decisions.

- The problem with the culture is that it has separated emotions and feelings from thinking.

2. Your _____ are the truest thing about you.

- The problem is that major decisions about who you are: identity, sexuality, and the future, are based solely on feelings.

The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; who can understand it?

Jeremiah 17:9 (NASB)

Question:

If you don't follow your heart, what should you do instead?

The heart – according to Scripture, it is the center of a person’s mind, emotions, and will. It’s the seat of one’s moral conscience and affection.

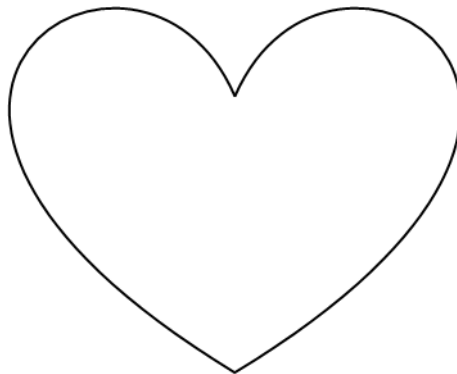
Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)

Principle: All of life _____ from your _____.

- The condition of your heart directly impacts the quality of your relationships.

The streams of influence in your life:



Relational intelligence: _____ your heart to protect and govern
what _____ from your heart.

Discussion Questions:

1. America's relational anthem states you need to follow your feelings and emotions. Why is basing your identity on your feelings and emotions an inaccurate view of yourself?
2. Share a time when you a made a decision based on the idea of "follow your heart." What was the outcome?
3. According to Jeremiah 17:9, why is following your heart not wise?
4. What are your streams of influence? What does this reveal about your heart?
5. What practical steps will you take this week to guard your heart?