

# A Heart For God

(Acts 13:16-22)

## Introduction.

People who have a heart for God will be spiritually blessed beyond description.

People who have a heart for God experience Him in ways, others do not.

People who have a heart for God are able to face life circumstances much more effectively than people who do not. – Charles Stanley

Contextualize Acts 13.

## I. Principle: God continues to seek people with a heart for Him.

### A) The declaration – “a man after my heart”

(What does the phrase “man after my heart” mean?)

- Have the heart of God in all you are, think and do.
- Have a life governed by the desires of God
- Have the interest of God as your interests
- Be motivated by the desire to please God and carry out His will

### B) The duration – continuous

(The idea is that the overarching desire of your life (your legacy) is that you desired God, and His will, above anything else.)

### C) The demonstration – “carry out all My will”

**Hosea 6:6** - For I desire loyalty and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

**I Samuel 15:22** - Then Samuel said: Does the LORD take pleasure in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD? Look: to obey is better than sacrifice, to pay attention is better than the fat of rams.

**Psalms 51:16-17** - You do not want a sacrifice, or I would give it; You are not pleased with a burnt offering. The sacrifice pleasing to God is<sup>[d]</sup> a broken spirit. God, You will not despise a broken and humbled heart.

## **II. Illustration: How do we know David was a man after God's heart (I Samuel 24:1-12)?**

David did not kill Saul in the cave, because he had rather be obedient to God than be king.

## **III. Application: How do I become a person "after God's heart?"**

- A) Sense the Heart of God
- B) Address distractions
- C) Persevere

## **Conclusion**