

## CHAPTER SIXTEEN: THE GATE, THE ROAD, THE DESTINATION

We approach life with God through one of two gates, traveling one of two roads, leading to one of two destinations. One is religious, traveling from the outside in. The other is relational, traveling from the inside out. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus described the *two gates*, the *two roads*, and the *two destinations*: “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it” (Matthew 7:13-14).

The *gate* represents our hearts, who we are designed to *be* from the inside-out. Proud hearts come in two forms: *stone* (older son) or *sand* (younger son). A humble heart is *clay* which fully surrenders all four of its chambers (father).

The *road* is imagery for our *desires*, specifically what we were designed to *do* for our satisfaction. Stone and sand hearts walk the road of their *sinful nature*. Legalistic stone hearts attempt to satisfy their desires by partially surrendering the vertical at the expense of the horizontal. Licentious sand hearts attempt to satisfy their desires by partially surrendering the horizontal at the expense of the vertical. Both stone and sand hearts remain dissatisfied. Clay hearts fully surrender to walk the road with the Spirit of the Restorer where the vertical intersects with the horizontal. Clay hearts are satisfied.

The *destination* is where we *go* with our *three resources of life* (time, talent, and treasure). Proud stone and sand hearts arrive at a destination of *destruction (apoleia)*, temporary and eternal separation from the Restorer. Humble hearts arrive at a destination of *life (zoe)*, abundant and eternal vitality with the Restorer.

### ***Navigating Restoration Road***

Left to yourself, which son’s heart do you reflect: the older (stone) or the younger (sand)?

What steps will you take for the Restorer to unlock His heart of clay as you travel Restoration Road toward the destination of life?