

Padre Pio - Prayer Anthology

Prayer #16

Focus idea: We are complex human beings with the gift of free will, given to us by our loving God. What is it inside of us that drives our choices? Our hearts, our minds, our souls? We are certainly influenced by our upbringing, our environment, family, friends and colleagues. What about God? Are we asking ourselves what God would want us to do? Fr. Vince explains that, "What comes out of a person's heart is what matters to Jesus. If your heart is in the right place, then everything else in a person's life will be right." Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will help us to make our hearts more like the loving and compassionate heart of Jesus.

Prayer for a selfless and compassionate heart:

Dear Lord, please help me to feel Your spirit deep within my heart. Help me to feel Your strength behind me, and to choose selflessness over selfishness. Help me to truly want to show compassion and kindness to other people, those that I know and those that I will never meet. Help me to realize that You love ALL of your children, including those that I may not like or respect, and those who themselves have chosen the wrong path. Help me to always keep that in mind and to look for ways to help, not hurt the people of Your world. Help my heart to overflow with Your love, and help me to spread that spectacular, sustaining love to those who are without it. Please smile as You recognize my sincere desires, and continue to bless me with opportunities to passionately bring Your peace and spirit to the lost members of Your earthly family. Amen.

Closing thoughts: Tell Jesus what is in your heart. Thank Him for your gifts and most of all, thank Him for loving you with His most sacred heart!