

# Tender Hearts

by K.P. Yohannan

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*The sermon 'Tender Hearts' highlights the problem of unrepentant sin in the Church, leading to relationship problems and a poor testimony.*

**Scripture:** Ezekiel 36:26, Matthew 7:3, James 4:10

**Topics:** "Relationship Restoration", "Tenderness of Heart"

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## Description

K.P. Yohannan addresses the alarming state of relationships within the Church, highlighting the lack of conviction of sin among leaders and the high attrition rates of missionaries due to personal conflicts. He emphasizes that the root of these issues lies in hardened hearts that are no longer tender towards God and others, leading to a poor testimony of faith. The sermon points out that many relationship problems stem from an unwillingness to take responsibility for one's actions and a desire to protect one's self-image. Yohannan calls for a return to humility and accountability to mend the brokenness in our relationships and families.

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## Transcript

"You know one of the hardest things I have to deal with is to sit in front of a man who has done awful, stupid things in his life or ministry yet has no conviction of sin. Even if he is caught, he acts as if there is no problem and simply asks for a transfer. I am weary of it."

These were the exact words to me from a minister whose denomination appointed him as a counselor for its ministers and church workers across several nations.

Many respected Christian agencies report record attrition rates of up to 80 percent for their well-trained, postgraduate field workers. Most barely survive their second term, and only a few make it past their third. The number one reason for leaving the mission field is not death threats from an anti-Christian community or lack of funds, but personal relationship conflicts. They simply can't get along with their co-workers or the leadership.

Recent studies have estimated the divorce rate among born-again Christians in America to be anywhere from 35 percent to as high as 72.5 percent. Incidentally, the likelihood of divorce appears to be identical for both believers and nonbelievers. Most couples file for divorce not because of a spouse's infidelity, but because of incompatibility. Again, it's a relationship problem that destroys the foundation of our families and fills our prisons with delinquent teenagers.

Because these reports are not about secular society but represent the condition of the Church at large, we must ask ourselves: What's wrong with our hearts that we would produce such a poor testimony?

It seems our hearts are no longer tender toward our God, toward our brothers and sisters in Christ or toward our spouses and families. At the center of each of these relationship problems is our unwillingness to humble ourselves and take responsibility for our sin. Instead, we fight and manipulate others to protect our self-image.

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Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/kp-yohannan/tender-hearts/>

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