

Title: **The Voice Within: The Conscience in the Christian Life**
Text: **1 Peter 3:16 & Assorted Verses**
Date: **November 2, 2025**

Find the sermon manuscript to follow along with online at mercyhillchurch.org.



Big Idea

God has given each of us a conscience, when properly guided by the Spirit, shaped by God's Word and rooted in the Gospel, to help us to live in integrity, holiness and love for Him and with others.

1. What Is the Conscience & What Does It Do?

- E_____ has a conscience (cf. Romans 2:14-15)
- Our conscience is a God-given "inner voice" which evaluates & g_____ as to what is right or wrong and c_____ or c_____ us accordingly.
 - Our conscience speaks with a "voice" that is i_____ of us
 - Our conscience speaks with a "voice" that looks forward and b_____

2. Conscience & The Holy Spirit

- Our conscience is n_____ the Holy Spirit
- Our conscience is f_____ (imperfect) - the Holy Spirit is infallible (perfect)
- Our conscience is not static (fixed) but d_____ (changes)
- Our conscience is the instrument, the Holy Spirit is the i_____

3. The Good, the Bad & The Ugly of Our Conscience

- A g_____ ("clear") conscience (cf. Acts 23:1, 24:16; Romans 9:1; 2 Tim 1:3)
- An i_____ ("evil") conscience (cf. Hebrews 10:22)
- A d_____ ("seared") conscience (cf. 1 Timothy 4:2)
- A d_____ ("defiled") conscience (cf. Titus 1:15)
- An overly s_____ ("weak") conscience (cf. 1 Cor 8:7)

4. Conscience, Integrity & Community

(cf. 1 Cor 8:1-13, 10:23-33; Romans 14:13-23)

- It is a s_____ when you go a_____ your conscience -- because you are going against what you believe is God's will -- even if the a_____ itself is not sin. (cf. Romans 14:23)
- It is also a sin when you r_____ to reform your conscience -- because you are going against God's W_____
- It is also a sin to use our f_____ to encourage or c_____ another believer to go a_____ their conscience (cf. 1 Cor 8:12-13, Romans 14:20-21)

5. Our Conscience & The Gospel

- Our conscience can only f_____ properly when it is being shaped by the Holy Spirit through God's W_____
- We can have a g_____ and clear conscience when we r_____, believe, apply, and l_____ out the Gospel!

Recommended Resources

- *The Art of Turning From Sin to Christ for a Joyfully Clear Conscience* by Kevin DeYoung
- *Discovering the Joy of a Clear Conscience* by Christopher Ash



Reflection Questions

- When was a time when you followed (listened) to your conscience? When was a time when you didn't listen (ignored) your conscience? How did it feel?
- Do you tend to have a more desensitized ("seared") conscience or overly sensitive ("weak") conscience? Why?
- What are some ways you can help and encourage - and not be a stumbling block - to those in our church community in their faith?
- Are there any things your conscience right now is bringing up that you have not acknowledged, confessed, repented of, and/or need to seek forgiveness from the Lord (or others) about?
- What are some practical ways you can train your conscience to be more in tune with God's Word & the Holy Spirit?

W

E

L

C

O

N

E

SCAN TO FILL OUT A



CONNECTION CARD

Give online at mercyhillchurch.org/give or text any amount to 84321 and follow the prompts.

Our Mission & Values

Mercy Hill Church exists to help restore us to God, neighbor, and city through the good news of Jesus Christ.

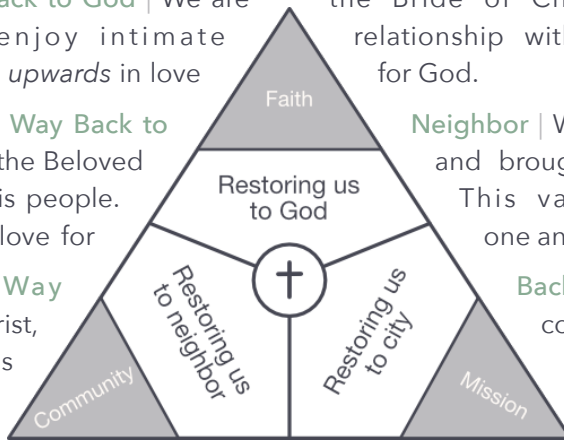
FAITH: The Way Back to God | We are redeemed to enjoy intimate presses our church *upwards* in love

the Bride of Christ, created and relationship with him. This value for God.

COMMUNITY: The Way Back to Christ, adopted in the Beloved relationship with his people. church *inwards* in love for

Neighbor | We are the Family of and brought into covenantal This value presses our one another.

MISSION: The Way the Embassy of Christ, Savior to be his value presses our in love for the



Back to City | We are commissioned by the ambassadors. This church *outwards* unbelieving.

Your Next Steps

When approaching the Christian faith and life, it can be confusing to know where to even begin. Come find us at the Next Steps Table after the service—it would be our joy to help you along in the journey! And if you're a visitor, we have a special gift bag for you. Don't miss it!



Mail: PO Box 23806, San Jose, CA 95153
Phone: (408) 320-7080
Email: info@mercyhillchurch.org
Web: mercyhillchurch.org



Welcome to Mercy Hill Church.
We are so glad you've joined us today!

Announcement Spotlight

All Church Appreciation Lunch - 12/7!

Mercy Hill has so many wonderful people who keep all the various dimensions of our ministry thriving and fruitful. And we want to appreciate them! So immediately following the service on Sunday, December 7th, we are planning to have a special all church lunch (think Pizza My Heart pizza party, with salad, dessert, etc.) as a way of saying thanks. The whole church is invited to stay after and participate as we look to particularly appreciate those who have served in various capacities throughout this last year. We hope you can join us!

If you're planning to come, please help us prepare by RSVP'ing (scan the QR code below to find the link).

If you have any questions, please reach out to us at info@mercyhillchurch.org.

All Church Hangout - Today!

All Church Prayer - Tonight!

Philippines Missions Trip - Two Ways to Support!

Scan the QR code below for more info!

For clickable content and more announcements,



scan this code to head to our Communications Hub!

Or find it online at mercyhillchurch.org/communications-hub.