Wonderful Life "A New Heart" Ezekiel 36:25-27, Galatians 4:6, John 14:15-16 December 15, 2024

Christmas keeps the promise that God would send someone to save us and that God would do something in us.

Deuteronomy 30:6

6 And the Lord your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your offspring, so that you will love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.

Circumcision is the sign of a relational promise.

The heart.

Ezekiel 36:25-27

25 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. 26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

Pleasure and duty mix.

Galatians 4:6

6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Those with a new heart obey because they love.

John 14:15-16

15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever.

You grow more dependent.

You don't feel less sinful.

Through Christ we are given a new place in the family, with a heart to love God.

Life Group Discussion Questions

- What did God say to you through His Word during our Sunday gathering?

- Describe the difference between giving a gift out of obligation and giving a gift from delight?

What does it mean to do something but your "heart wasn't in it?"
If God cares about our hearts and not just our actions or behaviors, what does that say about Him?

- Read Ezekiel 36:26-27. What kind of is this Old Testament passage promising?
- What would be signs that someone has a new heart?
- How can your life group help you apply this passage to your life this week?