



HEART  
*from*  
STONE

DEVO WEEK 1

# HEART =from= STONE

## WEEK 1 DEVO

### INTRO

**If someone asked you these questions, how would you respond?**

- Why does Christianity make people so mean and miserable?
- How would you respond to a person who fell out of the habit of coming to church during covid and is finding it hard to return?
- Why does it seem that some people outside of the church who do not practice Christianity seem happier and healthier than some of those who go to church?

**How do these questions make you feel?**

### DEFINITIONS

**Read:** Exodus 20:1-8, Exodus 20:18-21

**Read and Discuss these definitions of heart and law.**

#### HEART

The essence of a person where conscious and unconscious choices are made based on the things we value, the patterns of our thoughts and the things we love. The heart is the essence of who we are and will determine who we will ultimately become.

The heart is the avenue of relationships.

#### LAW

A set of rules outside a person that are needed when the goodness and relationships of people breakdown because too many of our hearts are sick, evil, toxic, unhealthy.

**Discussion Questions:**

- What about these two definitions resonate with you?
- What part of these two definitions do not make sense or are not clear?
- Do you agree with the following statement?
  - Good people with healthy relationship don't need much law.
  - Nothing will make you more miserable and mean than trying to follow a set of rules when your heart is not in it.

## THE PROMISE

Read Matt 5:17-20; John 14:15-17; 25

How does Jesus' promise in these verse fulfill the promise in the verse above in Ezekiel 11:19-20, Ezekiel 36:26-27?

### Do you agree with the following statement?

The promise of Jesus is to move the cold law written on stone unto our living heart through a relationship with the Holy Spirit.

### If this statement is true...

- What would it change about your practice of Christianity?
- How important is a relationship with the Holy Spirit?
- What role is the Spirit supposed to play in your life?

## MY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Read Matthew 22:36-40

How does Jesus' teaching change the first four commandments away from a list of rules to relationships?

How is your love relationship with God the Father and His Son Jesus through the Holy Spirit? Circle the below statement that most accurately describes your relationship with the Spirit.

- I don't know the Father, Jesus or the Holy Spirit
- My time and connection with God is distant and infrequent
- An occasional awareness but not central to my life
- An infrequent reconnection when I am overwhelmed.
- Usually, a plea for help from desperation
- A daily connection that defines my life and priority
- A regular source of strength and comfort
- A powerful source of challenge and transformation
- A teacher who regularly opens the scripture to me in a way that is changing me
- A truth teller who regularly points out areas of sin and leads me back to God
- A person who speaks to me about my identity, my calling and the challenge to love the people in my life

**WHO  
IS THE  
SPIRIT  
TO ME?**

How does this statement challenge you?

**LISTEN TO THIS DEVO**



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