



IMMANUEL CHURCH

Discussion Guide: Trust Your Heart
April 23, 2017

Opening Questions:

- Who shared the cliché *trust your heart* with you? Where do you suppose it originated from? Why do we seem to love the concept so much; regardless of whether or not it's truly good advice?
- How often would you say following your heart or your instincts has let you down? Share an example of a time you made an emotional move that later proved less than wise...

Looking at Scripture:

- Read **Jeremiah 17:5-9**... Why do you think Israel had so often gone with their gut? Even after countless lessons learned, this is still their default...why is that? Why can't we seem to see that our hearts are deceitful and wicked?
- God compares a bush in the desert to a tree by a river; what differences do you see between the two? Why is God drawing this comparison and which plant do you feel represents you in your current life stage?
- Do you think most people have a need to be productive, confident and safe? What's that all about? What ways do people most often try and meet those needs with things they have an emotional desire for? How should we differentiate those wants from what we actually need?
- Read **Jeremiah 24:7, Ezekiel 36:26, and Psalm 51:10**. What do these verses have in common? What does that say about the things we should be asking God for in our own prayer life?

Application Questions:

- This week's bottom line was **WE NEED A NEW HEART**. What would be different in your life if your heart was replaced with the heart of Jesus? How would your relationships be affected? What about your various roles? Your routines and priorities?
- What *doesn't* change in your life if you begin to operate from an entirely new emotional center (i.e. God's)?
- How is having hope and security different from having a life free of struggles and challenges? How can the two be present in our lives at the same time?
- If you lived the next 24 hours with a constant "it'll be okay" frame of reference...what would it look like? Why can't your instincts get you there?

End your time together praying for one another, asking God to create a clean heart within each member. Pray that he'd give everyone a heart like his that feels like his for the people and the various challenges we face.