

SMALL GROUP GUIDE [MS] | HEART [DEC. 7]

SCRIPTURE | Joel 2:12-13

BOTTOM LINE

God is what your heart wants, so give God your heart.

MEMORY VERSE

Change your life, not just your clothes;
Come back to God, your God. (Joel 2:13a)

LIFE APP

Trust your heart to God, and guard it against the ones who try to be like God.



- Tonight the kids will have the opportunity to participate in several prayer stations. Be in tune to how your students are participating.
- Share with the kids about what you or your family does for Advent. We have two weeks of worship during Advent, so make sure kids know what Advent is about for you!

MY GOAL FOR THE NIGHT |



Heart issues are typically some of the scarier things people have to deal with in the medical field. While advances in medicine have helped, any heart condition is considered serious because of all the heart means to the rest of the body. The heart of who we are as God's child is just as significant. In the second week of Advent, God calls us through the prophet Joel to turn/break our heart for God. Not just the outside behavior, but deep inside of who we are as His people. This involves our values, attitude, habits, lifestyle, money, and all that we hold dear. God calls us to change, not just our clothes, but change our life.

JUST FOR FUN

- See Just for Fun page.



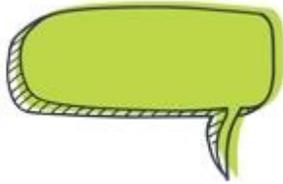
“The prophet Joel calls on people to change their life, not just what’s on the outside, but what’s on the inside. Let’s talk about what that looks like.”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- In the passage, Joel makes it clear that it's not about just changing what's outside (our clothes). When is an example of a time you tried to change an "outside" thing in hopes of solving a deeper issue with you?
- The word "rend" actually means break or tear. So Joel is actually saying, "tear your heart". How does that word make you feel when you think of God asking us to change?
- What are some examples of things that we should bring "into" our hearts for God? What about things to take out?
- What can we learn from people around us who have tried to change something in their life?
- What is something that needs to be brought into or taken out of who you are right now? An attitude? A habit?



You will receive a sticky pad of heart shaped post-it notes. Give 7 to each student, and have your students write 7 things for them to think about changing and surrendering to God. Then each day, students can spend time reflecting and praying about the change for that day. To think about it a different way, come up with 7 things to get in/out of our heart and write those things down.



EXTRAS
