From Head to Leb: Introduction | September 5, 2021

Summary

Let us encounter Jesus and let Him take us deep into the love of God, and learn how to listen to His heart and let it change our hearts.

Scripture

I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. -Ephesians 3:16-20 (NLT)

Let's Start

Pastor Dale introduced the beginning of a year-long study of the Gospel of John, called "From Head to Leb." The material in the book of John is unique from the other Gospels; scholars estimate about 90% of the material in John is not found in the other Gospels. As you page through his Gospel, what are some of your favorite parts?

Gratitude and Prayer

What happened this past week that you are grateful for? What would you like to pray for today? How did God work in your life since the last time we were together? What is He doing through you as it relates to your Adopt 7?

Let's Talk

- 1. Pastor Dale defined "Leb" as your heart in Hebrew. The Biblical understanding of the heart is that place in our lives where our thoughts, choices and feelings converge. It's that place in our gut where we formulate how we think, feel and know ourselves, others and God. Have you ever had a "gut feeling" about something? How did it turn out?
- 2. Pastor Dale gave four reasons why he chose the book of John as our guide for this series. He wants all of us to:
- Learn what it means to rest our heads on the chest of Jesus and daily hear the heartbeat of God.
- ➤ Know beyond all doubt that we are unconditionally loved by our Creator and God.
- Experience God's love fill us so that it gushes out of our lives, our families, the church and even spills over on to strangers and everyone we meet.
- > Be so possessed by the love of God that when others encounter us they really encounter Christ
 - As you look over the list above, reflect on your life. Has there been a time when you have felt overwhelmed by the love of God? Share your experience. What have other people done which has pointed you to God's love?
- 3. Read Ephesians 3:16-19. What did Paul want the Ephesians—and us—to understand?
- 4. If the apostle Paul was to give you advice for your personal devotions, what do you think he would advise?

Let's Act

As Pastor Dale suggested, will you memorize Ephesians 3:16-19? Will you pray it every day and put your name in it so that it becomes very personal? Will you make a commitment to attend church each week?

Notes			