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December 16 & 17, 2017 Week 6 – A Better Heart

Introc	luction:
Hebrews 3:12-19 – Notes / Application:	
	atan Tells Us: God's grace is no
2.	You're saved by grace, but you must live under
3.	Grace will lead to more in your life

# Big Idea:

If you HAVE NOT personally believed in Christ, don't harden your heart through continual unbelief! Today is the day to trust Jesus to save you and give you a new heart!

If you HAVE personally believed in Christ, choose to consciously walk in that grace by faith on a daily basis. Abide – consciously rest – in Him for the promise of His presence, power and productivity in your life! He is the Vine (producer) and you are the branch (bearer)!

#### **SMALL GROUP Q'S**

### Personal Life:

1. Thinking back to when you first placed your personal faith in Christ, was your salvation story one that happened quickly and immediately? Did it take a longer period of time or exploration to convince you? Why do you think your salvation story happened the way it did?

### **Ponderings:**

- 2. As a Christian, you can never lose your place in God's family. However, some Christians unfortunately go through seasons of doubt, failure and rebellion. During your Christian journey, how have you seen God remain faithful by drawing your new heart back to greater intimacy with Him?
- 3. In Hebrews 3:12-13, the author urges the believers to make sure that nobody among them becomes hardened through unbelief. In your opinion, do most believers you know live with this sense of urgency to win their friends into a relationship with Jesus? Explain...
- 4. How is it possible to simultaneously live with a sense of urgency toward those who are still without Christ, and yet live with a sense of rest in knowing that it's God's job to save people? Discuss...
- 5. In the message, it was noted that the only "litmus test" for assurance of our salvation is simple, childlike faith in the saving work of Jesus. While good works MAY be an evidence of salvation, why is it unscriptural and unwise to base our assurance on outward behavior? Discuss...

# **Promptings:**

6. This Christmas, think about someone in your sphere of influence who you are unsure about whether they have genuinely trusted Jesus yet. Are you willing to find ways to "encourage" them this Christmas toward faith in Christ, so that they will not be, over time, "hardened" by the deceitfulness of unbelief?

Share among your group the name of one person or family you would like to share Jesus boldly with this Christmas...and pray for one another to follow through with that desire!