Daily Devotion For December 2, 2022

"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh." Ezekiel 36:26

By now I think many of you know that I am at CHOMP undergoing test to see why I have been experiencing shortness of breath, lightheadness and low blood pressure. Yesterday's Echocardiogram showed that my heart is normal, for which I give thanks to God.

There is a praise song that we often sing at church entitled "Change My Heart Oh God." This song was written and sung by Eddie Espinosa. Eddie has always been one of my favorite Christian artist and I was always happy when he would lead worship at Wintersburg when I was there The lyrics go;

Change my heart oh God Make it ever true Change my heart oh God May I be like You

Why is it so important that we have a changed heart? Paul wrote "...do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." (Romans 12:2)

Every day we are under the pressure to conform to the ways of the world. To make matters worse, our flesh often craves much of this. Therefore, in order for us to change, we need a constant renewing of our heart. Paul tells us not to be 'conformed to this world', but to be 'transformed by the renewing of our mind.' The word 'transformed' is the Greek word from which we get the English word metamorphosis. Like a worm is transformed into a beautiful butterfly, so God wants to transform us into His likeness.

**Thought For Today:** In this season of Advent, ask yourself, Am I conforming to the ways of the world or am I changing into the likeness of Jesus?

**Today's Prayer Focus:** Pray that God would be changing your heart. Pray for Kiku Kuwatani and Mike Kelly who have also been here at CHOMP. Thank you for the many prayers! Deo Volente.