

MIND THE GAP

 NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CENTER
August 17, 2025

THE GAP
Pastor David Larson | Turlock
Pastor Jeremy Moore | Patterson

And so the Lord says, “These people say they are mine. They honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Isaiah 29:13 (NLT)

1. Do I really want to _____ what God has to _____?

So pay attention to how you hear. To those who listen to my teaching, more understanding will be given. But for those who are not listening, even what they think they understand will be taken away from them.” Luke 8:18 (NLT)
ohn 14:4-5 (NLT)

Philippians 4:7 (ESV) And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Do I really care more about my _____ or my _____?

See Matthew 23:13-15; 25-28; 33

When we display our righteous deeds, they are nothing but filthy rags. Isaiah 64:6b (NLT)

3. Does my _____ really _____ to God?

And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart. Ezekiel 36:26 (NLT)

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And so the Lord says, “These people say they are mine. They honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Isaiah 29:13 (NLT)

1. Do I really want to HEAR what God has to SAY?

*So pay attention to how you hear. To those who listen to my teaching, more understanding will be given. But for those who are not listening, even what they think they understand will be taken away from them.” Luke 8:18 (NLT)
John 14:4-5 (NLT)*

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7 (ESV)

2. Do I really care more about my INSIDE or my OUTSIDE?

See Matthew 23:13-15; 25-28; 33

When we display our righteous deeds, they are nothing but filthy rags. Isaiah 64:6b (NLT)

3. Does my HEART really BELONG to God?

And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart. Ezekiel 36:26 (NLT)



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
August 17, 2025

CONNECT

If you could change one thing about your appearance, what would it be?

ENGAGE

What impacted you the most personally from the message?

GROW

1. Read Isaiah 29:13. What does this reveal about the difference between outward religion and inward devotion?
2. Why do you think it's so easy to focus on our outward image rather than our heart?
3. In Matthew 23, Jesus strongly rebuked the Pharisees. Which of His warnings speaks to you the most, and why?
4. What are some modern-day examples of "rituals" or "religious appearances" that can distract us from Jesus?
5. How can we recognize when our faith has become more about image than about intimacy with God? What's one way you can shift your focus from external appearance to internal transformation this week?

LEAD (YOURSELF)

How will you respond to God's invitation to receive a "new heart" from Ezekiel 36:26 in your own life?