

## **A New Heart**

### **Ready:**

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, and see, the new has come.” -- 2 Corinthians 5:17

### **Set**

In our pregame talks, we tell our players to “play with heart!” and encourage them to perform their best. The more our players develop such a vision, the deeper their commitment to the sport becomes.

This is exactly what Jesus wants from us. He wants to develop a heart in us that will commit to knowing Him in a deeper, more intimate way. As we develop this kind of heart, others will notice.

For years, I believed in who God was, but I did not have a relationship with Him. Then the Lord brought a friend into my life to “coach” me into wanting a relationship with Him. She cared enough about me to show me her heart. As a result, I was so drawn to Jesus that I surrendered and He became the Lord of my life. As I learned to trust Him, all my relationships changed.

As competitors who follow Christ, we can pour out to others what He has poured into us. He’ll restore and rejuvenate our relationships as He continues to change our hearts. And as we rest in Him and continue to be transformed into His likeness, the peace, hope and joy we experience with Him will show our players what it really means to play with heart!

### **Go**

- In what ways have others – teammates, coaches, friends, etc. – poured God’s love and hope into you?
- Think of those people whom God put in your life to model heart and faith. How could you now encourage them?

### **Workout**

[Psalm 51](#)

[Matthew 22:37-40](#)

### **Overtime**

“Lord, I pray as David prayed that You would create in me a clean heart for Your purposes.

Amen.”



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