

When Our Hearts Are Far From God (3/9/25)

Verses: Isaiah 29:13-14

Main Verse: Isaiah 29:13

'Takeaway': Even when our words are full of God, but our hearts are not, we can trust that he still offers real help to those simply 'going through the motions'.

Getting Started: Have you ever done something but didn't really feel like doing it?

READ: Isaiah 29:13-14 (or have older kids help read).



Some **QUESTIONS** to consider:

Toddler/PreK:

- What does “draw near with their mouth and honor me with the lips” mean?
- What does God say he will do (in v.14) even though “their hearts are far” from him?
- What do we learn about God in these verses?

Elementary:

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- What does God say in v. 14 He will do even though “their hearts are far” from Him?
- What do we learn about God in these verses?

Here are some **IMPORTANT IDEAS** we discover in these verses :

Toddler/PreK:

- The people did and said the “right things” but not because they were trying to honor and please God.
- God wants us to draw near with our hearts and heed his word, rather than following man-made traditions. (see also Matthew 15:8-9)
- Despite what was only ‘lip-service’ to him, God will not be set aside; his wonderful plans and purpose would and will prevail.
- God is faithful and trustworthy, always, even when we are not.

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- God is faithful and trustworthy, always, even when we are not.

An **ENCOURAGEMENT** in light of God's word:

Toddler/PreK:

Talk to God, and thank him that he is faithful and trustworthy even when we are not. Thank God that through faith in Jesus we really can draw near, in hearts and words. Ask him to help you to do just that: to draw near to God and to obey his word as you grow in him.

Elementary:

Talk to God, and thank him that he is faithful and trustworthy even when we are not. Thank him that through faith in Jesus we really can draw near, in hearts and words. Ask God to help you do just that: to draw near to him and to obey his word today and every day.