

## JOURNEY WAYPOINTS

A stop along the journey to study, share, and support one another while we learn the way of Jesus.

### This Week's Big Idea

God's steadfast, covenant love (*hesed*) is revealed throughout the story of Scripture demonstrating that God has always loved people. His unlimited, boundless love will be fully expressed as He establishes a new covenant - one that enables us to be brought fully into His love, the place we were always meant to be.

### Scripture & Study

**KEY TEXT:** Jeremiah 31:31-34; Luke 1:54-55 [Click here to access this week's scriptures](#)

"I make known the end from the beginning...my purpose will stand," Isaiah 46:10 declares. From the outset, God revealed His plan to redeem His creation, to crush sin and death, and to restore humanity to Himself. Why? Why would God choose to pursue willful, disobedient rebels? Why would He place Himself in the position to be betrayed, hurt, offended and rejected over and over again? Why would He continually declare that He would redeem and restore? The answer is found in *hesed*.

The *hesed* love of God is revealed throughout the pages, stories and prophetic words of Scripture. It is more than just a feeling; it is covenantal faithfulness, mercy, and unwaveringly committed love. It is a love that continues beyond sin, mends what is broken, and offers forgiveness freely. This love is not rooted in our worthiness but entirely in God's character—His eternal faithfulness and grace.

Through the prophet Jeremiah, God declared His plan to make a new covenant with His people—a covenant not written on tablets of stone but engraved on their hearts. In this covenant, God promised to transform the human heart, replacing sin and death with forgiveness and life. This transformation allows us to live as we were created to live: fully known and loved by God, and living out of that love in relationship with Him and others.

The season of advent; celebrating that which we know is coming. Waiting in expectation, yet also knowing that in Jesus, God fulfilled what He had promised. As we celebrate the coming of Jesus, we are also celebrating the incredible *hesed* of God - throughout the generations and throughout our lives. And because He loved so unwaveringly, we can also, from deep within His love, love with an everlasting love.

### Discussion Questions:

- The New Covenant: What is the significance of God's promise in Jeremiah 31:31-34? How does this new covenant transform our relationship with Him?
- Love in Action: How can experiencing God's *hesed* enable you to love others, even when it's challenging or costly?
- Anticipation and Fulfillment: How does the season of Advent help us celebrate God's faithfulness while also waiting expectantly for His promises to be fully realized?

### Apply it:

- Reflect: Take time to meditate on the *hesed* of God. Journal ways you've experienced His covenant love and faithfulness in your life.
- Pray: Thank God for the new covenant and His faithful love. Ask Him to show you how to live out His *hesed* in your relationships.
- Act: Share an expression of God's love with someone this week—whether through an act of kindness, forgiveness, or intentional encouragement.