

## Change My Heart, O God by Eddie Espinosa

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Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God, may I be like You.  
You are the Potter, I am the clay;  
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.  
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Ezekiel 11:19 *“I will give you one heart and a new spirit; I will take from you your hearts of stone and give you tender hearts of love for God.”* The Living Bible<sup>1</sup>

Joel 21:12-13 *“But there’s this also, it’s not too late – God’s personal message! – ‘Come back to me and really mean it! Come fasting and weeping, sorry for your sins!’ Change your life and not just your clothes. Come back to God, your God. And here’s why: God is kind and merciful. He takes a deep breath, puts up with a lot, this most patient God, extravagant in love, always ready to cancel catastrophe.”* The Message<sup>2</sup>

What does it mean to you to “be like” God?

Why does God say *“I will give you one heart and a new spirit; I will take from you your hearts of stone and give you tender hearts of love for God.”*? If we are born with “tender hearts”, what changes them into stone?

How does the idea that God make you feel? Can you relate to the feeling that requires anyone to need to *“take a deep breath, put up with a lot”*? In what way(s)?

You are the Potter, I am the clay;  
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Isaiah 64:8b *“We are just clay, and You are the potter. We are the product of Your creative action, shaped and formed into something of worth.”* The Voice Bible<sup>3</sup>

Psalm 51:10 *“Create a pure heart in me, O God, and put a new and loyal spirit in me.”*

Good News Translation<sup>4</sup>

Psalm 16:1-2,7-8,11 *“Keep me safe, O God, I’ve run for dear life to You. I say to God ‘Be my Lord!’ Without You nothing makes sense. The wise counsel God gives when I’m awake is confirmed by my sleeping heart. Day and night I’ll stick with God; I’ve got a good thing going and I’m not letting go. Now you’ve got my feet on the life path, all radiant from the shining of Your face. Ever since You took my hand, I’m on the right way.”*

The Message<sup>2</sup>

What does the image of God as “the potter” mean to you? Is this a comforting image to you? Why?

Do you see God’s “creative action” in your life? In what way(s)? Do you feel you have been “shaped and formed into something of worth”? Why?

Do you feel God has taken your hand? If not, why not? How might it feel if you took some time to reach out for God’s hand now? Can you do that?

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Psalm 94:19 *“Lord, when doubts fill my mind, when my heart is in turmoil, quiet me and give me renewed hope and cheer.”*

The Living Bible<sup>1</sup>

Ephesians 5:8-9 *“For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light! For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true.”*

New Living Translation

A changed heart, a heart molded by the Master Potter, is the source of “light from the Lord”. Do you feel like you have a changed heart, or a heart of stone today? Why do you feel this way?

If you have a changed heart, take some time to thank God for the light, the hope, the love that is at the center of your being, your life.

If you feel like you have a heart of stone, would you like you like to exchange it, to have a changed heart? If you would, take some time to pray the words of this song, to offer your heart to God and ask for a “tender heart of love for God”. Do this as long as you need to, and look for God to act in your heart and in your life. Be patient though, because change takes time.

*And patience develops strength of character in us and helps us trust God more each time we use it until finally our hope and faith are strong and steady – then when that happens, we are able to hold our heads high no matter what happens and know that all is well, for we know how dearly God loves us, and we feel this warm love everywhere within us because God has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with His Love.*

Romans 5:4-5 The Living Bible

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