

The Heart

Proverbs 4:20-23 My son, pay attention to what I say; turn your ear to my words. Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart; for they are life to those who find them and health to one's whole body. **Above all, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.**

It is so important to keep our heart soft. We must always watch the condition of our heart because:

1. Our heart is the most valuable

(“above all” v23)

Matthew 15:8

We are not judged by what we say, we are judged by our hearts.

Matthew 7:21-23 ... ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

This is a reminder to be constantly checking our hearts and ensuring we are living in obedience to God.

What is the greatest commandment?

Matthew 22:37 Love the Lord with all your **heart**, with all your soul, and with all your mind.

2. Everything we do flows from our heart (v23).

Luke 6:45 A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

Everything in our heart, whether good or bad, will eventually reveal itself and become evident.

3. Our heart is constantly under attack. (“guard your heart” v23)

The bitterness, anger, immorality, hurt, etc, will eventually come out into the light, one way or another.

Unless we learn to deal with the sinful parts of our hearts, we will find ourselves bound to them, and constantly feel like we’re carrying a burden.

Ephesians 4:31-32 Get rid of all bitterness, rage, and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

How many times has God forgiven us?

Don’t let unforgiveness or attitudes corrupt your heart.

Matthew 9:4

Don't entertain evil thoughts. They will rid you of your God given joy.

Take your thoughts captive. If you don't, your heart will be troubled.

John 10:10 *The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and have it **to the full.***

Jesus has called us to thrive in Him!
Not to just survive and “hang on”.

We should look at the exterior of others and into their heart.

1 Samuel 16:7 *But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the **Lord looks at the heart.**”*

Matthew 6:19-21 *But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.***

Is your heart soft?

What's the condition of your heart?

Where is your treasure?

Don't leave yourself vulnerable to the enemy,
don't let yourself build attitudes, or unforgiveness
in your heart.

Constantly check your heart and keep your heart
soft!