

The Heart

Wisdom for the Holidays | Proverbs 4:23

Above all else, guard your heart,
for everything you do flows from it.

Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)

“A change in behavior that does not stem from a change in heart is not commendable; it is condemnable.”

-*Shepherding a Child's Heart* by Tedd Tripp

The heart matters most.

8 “These people honor me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me.
9 They worship me in vain;
their teachings are merely human rules.”

Matthew 15:8-9 (NIV) See Isaiah 29:13

We all have defective
hearts.

The heart is deceitful above all things
and beyond cure.

Who can understand it?

Jeremiah 17:9 (NIV)

Who can say, “I have kept my heart pure;
I am clean and without sin”?

Proverbs 20:9 (NIV)

The Holy Spirit can
change our hearts.

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Salvation

25 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. 26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

Ezekiel 36:25-26 (NIV)

27 And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

Ezekiel 36:27 (NIV)

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Salvation | Sanctification

Then he taught me, and he said to me,
“Take hold of my words with all your heart;
keep my commands, and you will live.

Proverbs 4:4 (NIV)

We work with God's
heart change.

Blessed is the one who always trembles
before God,
but whoever hardens their heart falls
into trouble.

Proverbs 28:14 (NIV)

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6. By guarding who we give our hearts to (Prov 7:25; 23:1, 26; 26:25).
7. By seeking God's way and not our own (Prov 18:2; 19:3; 23:19).

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