

Guard Your Heart

Proverbs 4:23- Guard your heart above all else, for it is the source of life.

Sunday, February 19, 2012

Why:

Because From it flow the springs of life ^(ESV/NAS) **It is the source of life** ^(HCSB) **It is the wellspring of life** ^(NIV)

What:

Keep your heart ^(ESV/NKJV) **Watch over your heart** ^(NAS) **Guard your heart** ^(HCSB/NET/NIV)

How:

With all vigilance ^(ESV/NET) **Above all else** ^(HCSB/NIV) **With all diligence** ^(NAS/NKJV)

**No Leapfrog!
Don't Clean the pipes; guard the wellspring**

For Personal Consideration:

“We study our hearts in the shadow of the cross as a means of protecting our hearts from the daily presence and opposition of sin. If you don’t watch you’ll inevitably weaken”

- Do you sense a presence or absence of affections for God?
- Do you daily shepherd your heart to God in His Word?
- Do you have an appetite for God's Word? Do you look forward to your time in it?
- David said in Ps 119:10 that he seeks God with his whole heart. Is your seeking of God in His Word whole hearted (pure) or half-hearted (tainted)?
- What specific steps have you taken to keep your heart near God in His Word?
- What specific steps do you need to take to keep your heart near God in His Word?
- How do your prayers reflect the vigilance with which you guard your heart?
- What lures your heart away from God? (Be specific). Consider James 1:14-15, James 4:4-5, 1 John 2:15-16 in your answer. How vigilantly do you flee from this?
- Knowing what draws your heart away, are you vigilantly guarding your heart away from the polluting influence of those things?
- What specific strategies have you employed to protect your heart from those things that would poison the wellspring of your life?
- Are there any areas in your life of known disobedience? What does this reveal about your heart?
- What patterns of sin do you find yourself in? What does this reveal about the guarding of your heart? (Consider Matthew 7:20-23)
- Consider what you did in your free time last week? What was the effect of this on your heart?
- Does your daily routine—particularly your pursuit of God in His Word—reflect that you are guarding your heart above all else?
- Do your entertainment choices and use of free time reflect that you are guarding your heart above all else?
- How does your internet use reflect that you are guarding your heart above all else?
- How does your use of money reflect your guarding of your heart?
- How do your retirement plans reflect how you are guarding your heart?
- How does your choice of friends reflect your guarding of your heart?