

Key Text: The Heart

Proverbs 4:23 (NLT)

“Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.”

1. Sinful Nature

Jeremiah 17:9

“The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?”

Ezekiel 36:26 - 27

“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.

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

Psalms 51:5

“Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.”

Solution: A New Life with a New Heart

Psalms 51:10

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.”

2 Corinthians 5:15-17

And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

16 So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

Romans 6:6-7

“For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— 7 because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.”

2. Wordly Lifestyle

Galatians 5:16-17

“So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.”

Hebrews 12:1

“let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles.”

Solution: Die to self and walk by the Spirit

Galatians 2:20

20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

3. Inaction

John 9:4

“As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work.”

1 Timothy 5:13-15

“they get into the habit of being idle and going about from house to house. And not only do they become idlers, but also busybodies who talk nonsense, saying things they ought not to. 14 So I counsel younger widows to marry, to have children, to manage their homes and to give the enemy no opportunity for slander. 15 Some have in fact already turned away to follow Satan.”

Solution: Take Action