

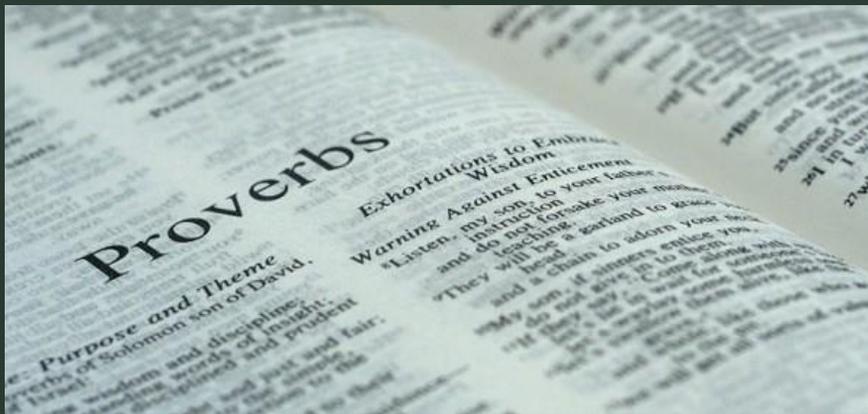


▶ Ascending the Hill

Guard Your Heart

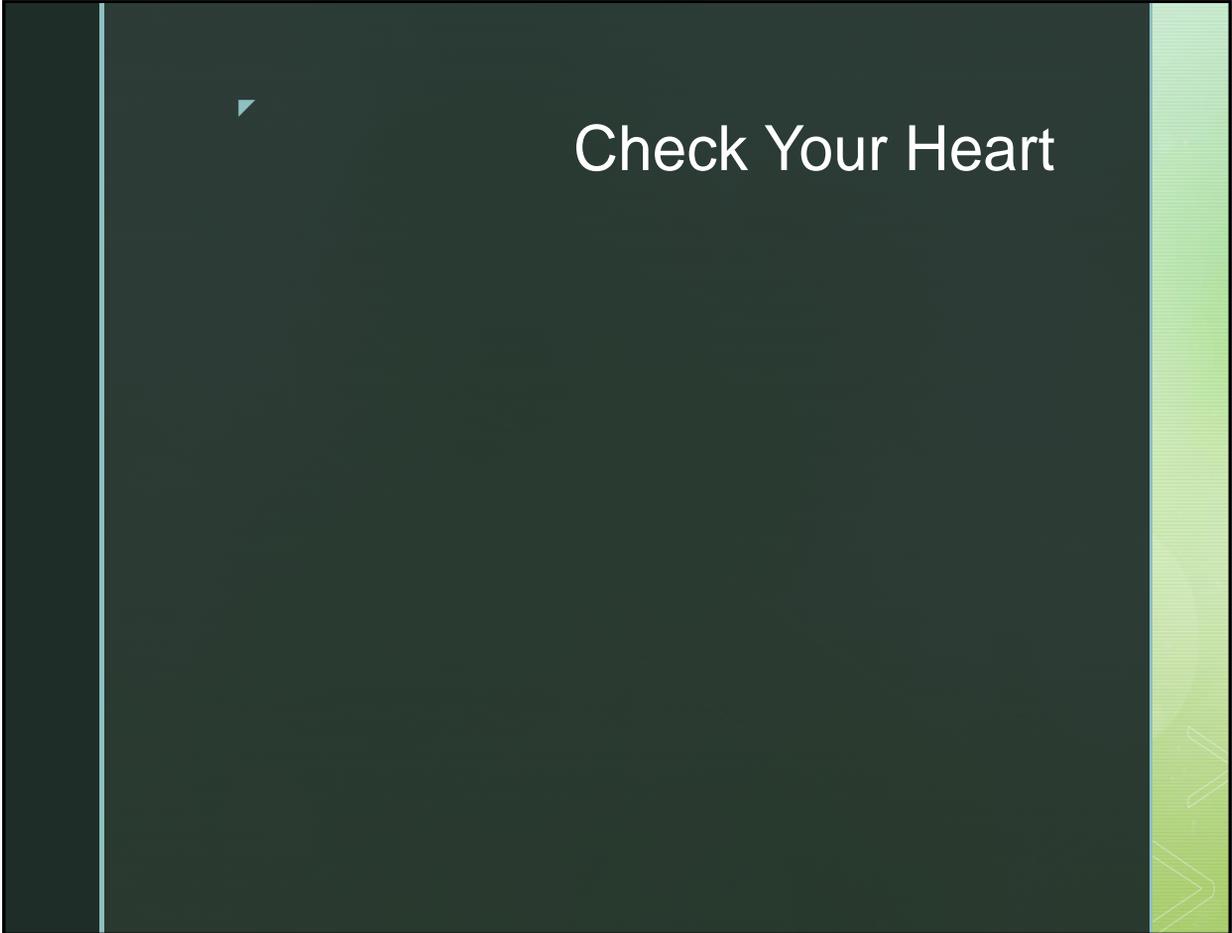
Wisdom

- ^{NAS} **Proverbs 9:10** The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.
- *Wisdom is living with skill, discipline, and discernment as holy, righteous, loving and faithful citizens of the Kingdom of God through knowing, understanding, and obeying the word of God.*



Wisdom in Action

- **NAS Proverbs 18:24** ... But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.
- **NAS John 15:13** "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴ "You are My friends, ... ¹⁵ "No longer do I call you slaves, ... but I have called you friends
- **NAS Song of Solomon 6:3** "I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine
- **NAS Philippians 3:7** But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord



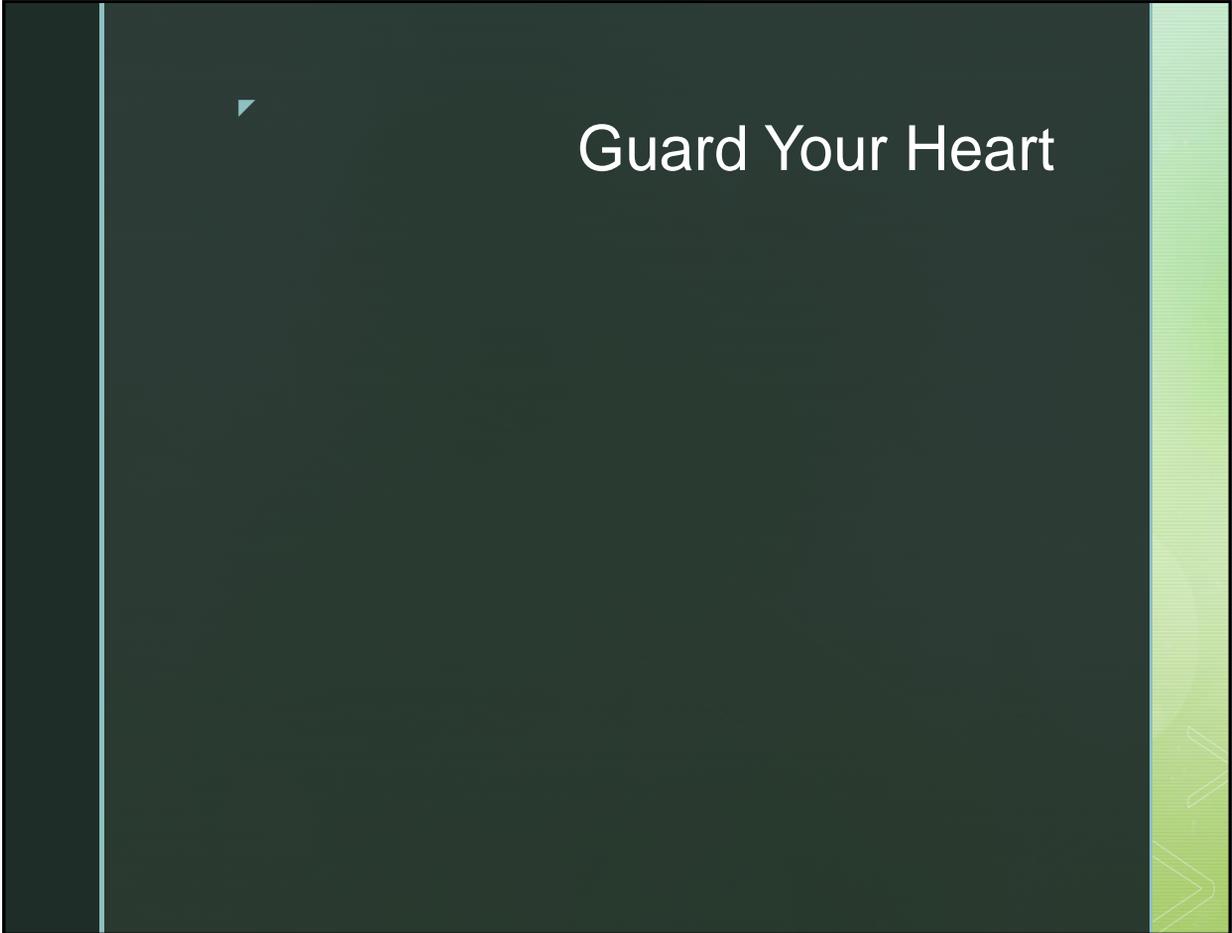
Check Your Heart

Don't Trust Your Heart

- ^{NAS} **Jeremiah 17:9** "The heart is more deceitful than all else
And is desperately sick; Who can understand it?"
- ^{NAS} **Ecclesiastes 9:3** This is an evil in all that is done under
the sun, that there is one fate for all men. Furthermore, the
hearts of the sons of men are full of evil, and insanity is in
their hearts throughout their lives. Afterwards they go to the
dead.
- ^{NIV} **Matthew 15:19** For out of the heart come evil thoughts,
murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony,
slander.

Examine it Carefully

- ^{ESV} **Hebrews 3:12** Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God.
- ^{NIV} **2 Corinthians 13:5** Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you-- unless, of course, you fail the test?
- ^{ESV} **Psalms 14:1** The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds,



Guard Your Heart

Treasure God's Word

- ^{NAS} **Proverbs 4:1** Hear, O sons, the instruction of a father, And give attention that you may gain understanding ... ⁴ ... he taught me and said to me, "Let your heart hold fast my words; Keep my commandments and live; ⁵ Acquire wisdom! Acquire understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth. ⁶ "Do not forsake her, and she will guard you; Love her, and she will watch over you. ⁷ "The beginning of wisdom is: Acquire wisdom; And with all your acquiring, get understanding. ⁸ "Prize her, and she will exalt you; She will honor you if you embrace her. ⁹ "She will place on your head a garland of grace; She will present you with a crown of beauty."

Keep God's Word

- **NAS Proverbs 4:10** Hear, my son, and accept my sayings, And the years of your life will be many. ¹¹ I have directed you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in upright paths. ¹² When you walk, your steps will not be impeded; And if you run, you will not stumble. ¹³ Take hold of instruction; do not let go. Guard her, for she is your life. ¹⁴ Do not enter the path of the wicked, And do not proceed in the way of evil men.

Guard Your Heart

- **NIV Proverbs 4:23** Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life. ²⁴ Put away perversity from your mouth; keep corrupt talk far from your lips. ²⁵ Let your eyes look straight ahead, fix your gaze directly before you. ²⁶ Make level paths for your feet and take only ways that are firm. ²⁷ Do not swerve to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil.

-  ^{NAS} **Luke 21:33** "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away. ³⁴ "Be on guard, that your hearts may not be weighted down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of life;
- ^{NAS} **Matthew 13:45** "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls, ⁴⁶ and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had, and bought it.
- ^{NAS} **Colossians 3:1** If then you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

Conclusions



Guarding Our Hearts

- ^{NAS} **Romans 12:1** I urge you therefore, brethren, ... to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind
- ^{NAS} **2 Corinthians 3:18** But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.
- ^{NIV} **Hebrews 12:2** Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith