

Sermon Supplement from July 7

Proverbs #4 – The Heart

Warm Up – *Proverbs 4:23 is the key verse in Proverbs regarding the heart. Talk about what that verse teaches regarding the heart and why the heart is so important.*

Dig In – *Proverbs 10-31 say a lot about the heart. Read the following verses and reflect on their application to your own heart.*

Bad Heart

10:20; 11:20; 12:20; 12:23; 14:14; 15:7; 16:5; 17:20; 18:12; 19:3; 21:4; 24:1-2; 26:23-25; 28:14

Good Heart

10:8; 11:29; 14:30; 14:33; 15:14; 15:28; 16:21; 16:23; 18:15; 22:11; 23:12; 23:15; 23:17; 23:19; 23:26

General

12:25; 13:12; 14:10; 14:13; 15:11; 15:13; 15:15; 16:1; 16:9; 17:3; 17:22; 21:2; 22:15; 22:17; 27:19

Wrap-Up | Heart Check

Prayerfully consider each of the following questions. Ask God to help you answer them truthfully. Every “yes” answer reveals a need for personal revival.

1. Is there anyone I have not forgiven? Is there any bitterness or resentment in my heart? Is there anyone with whom I have an unresolved conflict? Have I wronged anyone and failed to make it right?
2. Do I get angry? Am I easily offended? Do I get impatient and irritated?
3. Do I have feelings of jealousy? Is there anyone I dislike hearing praised? Am I secretly annoyed over the advancement and accomplishments of others?
4. Am I worried and anxious? Have I failed to trust God for my physical and spiritual needs? Do I murmur and complain?
5. Have I been dishonest? Do I ever lie, exaggerate, or misrepresent the truth?
6. Is there pride in my heart? Is it difficult for me to admit when I am wrong? Is it hard for me to ask others to forgive me? Do I try to create a better impression of myself than is honestly true? Do I get upset when I don't get recognition or praise for my accomplishments?
7. Have I stolen? Do I take “little things” that do not belong to me? Have I robbed God by withholding money or time that belongs to Him?
8. Do I gossip about others? Do I speak unkindly about people when they are not present?
9. Am I guilty of immorality? Do I allow my mind to dwell on impure and unholy thoughts? Do I have any personal habits or relationships that are not pure?
10. Have I failed to submit to the God-ordained authorities in my life? Do I have a rebellious, disobedient, stubborn, or un-teachable spirit?
11. Am I guilty of prayerlessness? Have I failed to intercede faithfully on behalf of others?
12. Have I neglected God's Word? Is it a chore for me to read, memorize, and meditate on the Word?

(Over)

13. Have I failed to witness consistently for Christ? Have I lost my burden for people who don't know Jesus?
14. Have I left my "first love" for Jesus? Have I become cold and indifferent in my relationship to Him?

PROVERBS READING CHALLENGE: Read through Proverbs 2-3 chapters per week over the summer using the H.E.A.R. method described below. If you are meeting in a small group or with your family, spend some time each meeting sharing what you are learning.

- **HIGHLIGHT:** While reading your selected text for the day typically a verse, phrase, or idea will stand out. Write that down.
- **EXPLAIN:** Using basic Bible study principles, explain what that verse or thought means in your own words. Be careful to explain the meaning considering the context.
- **APPLY:** Record how your reading applies to the way you think, feel or act.
- **RESPOND:** Write down a prayer or action step that you will take.

Adapted from Foundations by Robbie Gallaty

Proverbs Resources:

- *God's Word for You: Proverbs, Kathleen Nielson – devotional, easy to read*
- *Preaching the Word: Proverbs, Raymond Ortlund – application focused, pastoral*
- *Baker Commentary Old Testament: Proverbs, Tremper Longman III – scholarly, yet accessible.*

Next Week's Sermon: Pride