

Guard Your Heart, Guard Your Life – Proverbs: Wisdom for Life.

Proverbs 4:1-27

Sunday: 10/06/24 – Pastor Lenard Tavernelli

Attentively guard your heart so that you may not stumble but keep to the path of wisdom

Overview

Today, in our message in Proverbs, Pastor Lenard reminded us that our enemy seeks to exploit our weaknesses and at times we willingly fall for it. Pastor Lenard's example was the Trojan horse and the people of Troy, they willingly let an object they revered in to their demise. In our series we have been presented with the idea that there are two paths to walk in life; God's path or the path of the wicked. In this week's passage we are reminded of our personal responsibility to be attentive to where we put our feet on life's path. The first 3 Proverbs have helped to lay a foundation for us to seek the wisdom that will keep us on God's path. Today, we are called to attentively guard our hearts and seek wisdom.

Walking the wrong path is like a bad addiction – it can and will destroy you

Sermon Outline

To guard your heart:

1. Choose the path of wisdom (v1-9)
2. Keep to the path of wisdom (v10-19): Matthew 7:23
3. Guard your heart attentively (v20-27): Luke 6:45, Jeremiah 17:9, Romans 12:2, James 1:18, 1 Peter 2:2-3, John 12:17, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
4. Keep away from crooked speech (v24): 2 Corinthians 10:5, Ephesians 4:29, 1 Thessalonians 5:18, Colossians 3:7-10
5. Walk thoughtfully in God's way (v25-27): Deuteronomy 5:32-33

Discussion Questions

1. In our call to choose the path of wisdom you are faced with issue of value. What are practices in our life that would show that we truly value God's wisdom over the World's? What's the inverse in our lives?
2. Verse 26 calls us to ponder our path, this word of instruction implies where our next steps fall. What are everyday things that fall on our path? Where do you need to have your guard up?
3. Read verse 23; What other promises have we learned in this series regarding our hearts and wisdom?
4. The call to keep from crooked speech has implications to what we expose ourselves to as well as what comes out of our mouths (Matthew 15:18). This can include grumbling, curses, and gossip.
 - a. What does it look like to be attentive to your speech? (James 1:19)
 - b. Pastor Lenard mentioned issues with self-speak, What step do you need to take to combat internal negativity, doubt, and unbelief?
 - c. What choices do we need to make to be attentive to our ears?
5. Did anything else stand out in the passage?