

W I S D O M

Guard Your Heart

Proverbs 4:10-27

WISDOM

- I. Character Development.**
- II. Guard Your Heart.**
- III. Transforming the Heart.**

I. Character Development.

Listening + Choosing.

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Listening + Choosing.

Pr. 4:10. Hear, my son, and accept my words,

*Pr. 4:20. My son, be attentive to my words;
incline your ear to my sayings.*

Community: Who are you listening to?

WISDOM

I. Character Development.

Listening + **Choosing.**

2 Paths: Wisdom or Wickedness.

Progression.

Addiction.

I. Character Development.

Listening + **Choosing.**

2 Paths: Wisdom or Wickedness.

4:11. I have taught you the way of wisdom;

4:14. Do not enter the path of the wicked,

WISDOM

I. Character Development.

Listening + **Choosing.**

Progression.

*4:14-15. Do not enter the path of the wicked,
do not walk in the way of the evil. Avoid it; do
not go on it; turn away from it and pass on.*

I. Character Development.

Listening + Choosing.

Addiction.

4:16. For they cannot sleep unless they have done wrong; they are robbed of sleep unless they have made someone stumble.

I. Character Development.

Listening + **Choosing.**

Addiction.

4:19. The way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know over what they stumble.

I. Character Development.

Listening + **Choosing.**

We are all addicted to self.

- Inferiority: making others stumble (16)
- Superiority: don't know why I stumble (19)

I. Character Development.

Listening + **Choosing.**

It is our small everyday choices that lead to darkness of character.

I. Character Development.

II. Guard Your Heart.

III. Transforming the Heart.

II. Guard Your Heart.

4:23. Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life. (ESV)

II. Guard Your Heart.

4:23. Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. (NIV)

II. Guard Your Heart.

4:23. Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life. (NLT)

II. Guard Your Heart.

Heart: The center of your being, desire, imagination-affects reason, emotion, will.

Love God with your heart...soul...strength.

II. Guard Your Heart.

Your heart is your
most valuable
possession- Guard it!

II. Guard Your Heart.

Your heart is your greatest loves. It is the source of all choices and thus your character. You choose what you believe is most satisfying.



II. Guard Your Heart.

“I can go on if I have ____.”



**The glory or beauty that you
attach your life to.**

II. Guard Your Heart.

“I can go on if I have ____.”



my image.

Fool: 1) Makes others stumble,
2) Doesn't know why he/she stumbles.

II. Guard Your Heart.

“I can go on if I have ____.”



romance.

Fool: 1) Makes others stumble,
2) Doesn't know why he/she stumbles.

II. Guard Your Heart.

“I can go on if I have ____.”



children.

Fool: 1) Makes others stumble,
2) Doesn't know why he/she stumbles.

II. Guard Your Heart.

“I can go on if I have ____.”



work.

Fool: 1) Makes others stumble,
2) Doesn't know why he/she stumbles.

I. Character Development.

II. Guard Your Heart.

**III. Transforming the
Heart.**

III. Transforming the Heart.

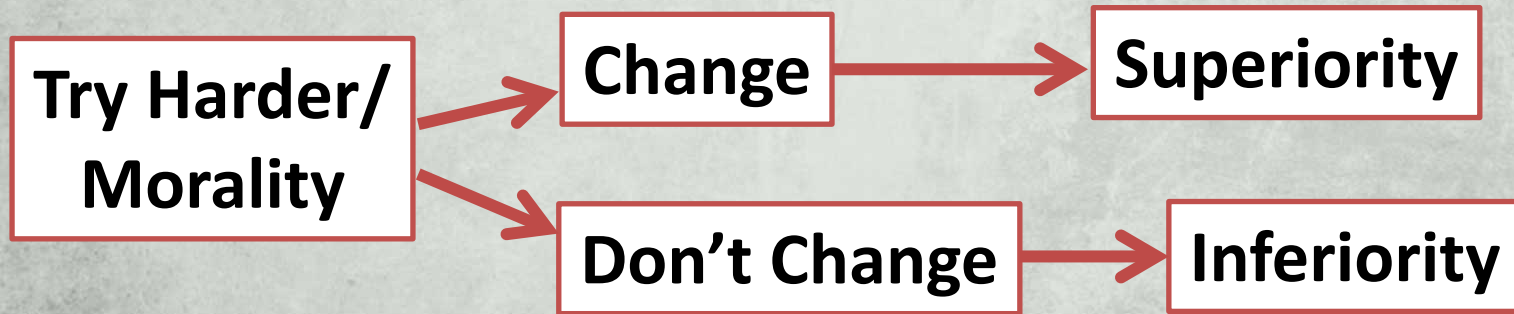
Your character can only be transformed by the transforming of your heart.

III. Transforming the Heart.

“Trying harder” and morality don’t cure your addiction to self.

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III. Transforming the Heart.

Only grace can cure your addiction to self.

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Only grace can cure your addiction to self.

**Grace:
New!
Change is a gift.**

**No Superiority
No Inferiority**

**Practical change
happening-
Character and
Morality**

III. Transforming the Heart.

The transformation of the heart occurs through:

- A new reality.
- A new vision.
- A new story.
- A new treasure.

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**Facts/Truth/Law
alone will never
transform the heart.**

**But a person can.
Jesus Christ.**

III. Transforming the Heart.

3:4. Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart.

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God's steadfast love and faithfulness meet at the cross of Jesus Christ.

III. Transforming the Heart.

*3:5-6. Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own understanding.
In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will
make straight your paths.*

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*3:5-6. Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
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*Only Christ and the cross can bring full trust
in God and an unblocked path.*

III. Transforming the Heart.

*4:13. Keep hold of instruction; do not let go;
guard her, for she is your life.*

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4:13. Keep hold of instruction; do not let go; guard her, for she is your life.

John 14:6. Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

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John 7:38. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'"

III. Transforming the Heart.

4:19. But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day.

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2 Cor. 3:18. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

III. Transforming the Heart.

4:25. Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you.

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Hebrews 12:1-2. let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith,

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Matthew 27:46. Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. ⁴⁶ And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, ...“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

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Jesus Christ.

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**Has the gospel captured
your heart?**