



CBS



...Transforming lives, impacting the nations

COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY

THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 2010.

7:00PM

STUDY OUTLINE #029

Text: Proverbs 4:23; Matthew 15: 1-20

Theme: Guarding your heart, for Issues of life.

Words in marble: the heart of every issue is the issue of the heart.

Man is diverse in his thinking, actions and words. We have established abilities to conquer space, explore depths of seas, manipulate and synthesize creation to suit our whims and caprices. In our gullibility, we have become daring in our quest for unlimited possibilities on our own terms. This covers every sector of life, in our carriers, talents, society, governance, relationship, family etc. The vogue is: dream it and have it.

These accomplishments, good or bad, benevolent or malevolent, constructive or destructive in their effects are products of thoughts. They all flow from the heart.

Our big question is, what nature of heart are they emanating from? Matthew 12:34-35

1. Our Direction

We are set out in this series to answer the big question. We want to examine the heart, what are the relevance vis a vis issues originating or sourced from it, why is it indispensable and a battle ground for entities' occupation. Why do we do what we do (various states of human heart) and their implications? Why is our society the way it is? Is their remedy for ugly and terrible activities around us? Despite our attitudes, can we as individuals and nation still aspire and be positioned for utmost and highest attainment in life?

2. Emphasis today

We want to have a clear understanding of the heart, its capabilities as well God's take in it. How is it indispensable to human existence, so we can relate with it.

3. Definition of heart and guard

According to Webster Dictionary

1. **Heart:** a hollow muscular organ of vertebrate animals that by its rhythmic contraction acts as a force pump maintaining the circulation of the blood (for life perseverance); the central or innermost part; the essential or most vital part of something (The inner, chief or vital part of any thing); the seat of the will; determined purpose, secret purposes, intentions or designs; secret meaning; real intention, Psalm 42: 6, John 2: 24-25

2. **Guard:** one assigned to protect or oversee another; : the act or duty of protecting or defending. In our context, the heart represents the personal identity of a person, thoughts, emotions, and will. It is point of connection and relationship with God.

4. Capabilities of the heart

With above definitions, the heart plays supreme role, biologically and spiritually: the focal point of every matter in life. It is the originator, spring, emergence of details of human life. **Proverbs 4:23** By implication, as God is life, and heart sources issues of life, the essence of heart is purely spiritual. It can only align with God for maximum effect. **John 5:26**

- As 4th member of God head, carrying the DNA of its maker, heart of man reflects the abilities

GUARDING YOUR HEART, FOR ISSUES OF LIFE *(Continued)*

of its maker and best responds to same. It is given divine ability to think and act, as in creation account...Genesis 1: 26-28; Genesis 2: 19-20.

- It has boundless possibilities especially when operating in divine frequency, Psalm 8
- Have abilities to access high spiritual networks.
- It has creative ability to re-enforce things and programmes individuals. Its the force of will power with strength and power of producing. Very highly fertile. Proverbs 23:7, Genesis 6:5; Numbers 13: 25-33; Proverbs 6: 12-15.
- Where purposes, designs and intentions are birthed, Daniel 1:8
- It is operational in devising things, planning, plotting and scheming. **1 Chronicles 28:9; 1 Kings 8: 17-21, Proverbs 19: 21; Ecclesiastes 7:29.**
- It is the seat of our yieldedness or belief system, a believing heart, Romans 10: Matthew 21:22, 2 Corinth 4:4, Titus 1:15, Job 36:13; Matthew 13:15; Mark 11:23.
- It is the seat of emotions **and defines our attitudes, dispositions...**hard heart, cruel; want of sensibility; an evil heart of unbelief, a willing heart, a heavy heart, a hard heart, a proud heart, a pure heart. it can be deceived, enlarged, reprov'd, lifted up, fixed, established, moved etc. Exodus 9:12, Ezekiel 36: 26
- It is where character is established, Psalm 112: 8; Psalm 119:9-11

Divine perspective of our heart. Psalm 139.

We are connected with God by our heart, Romans 10: 8-10

Everything about heart is spiritual as seen above. The strength of human heart rests in Him. He is the defining point. The relevant question is What is God's take on our heart?

NB. What we are in our heart is who we are before God. He knows our hearts better than we know them ourselves (Jer. 17:10), Proverbs 21: 1

Using the story of 1 Samuel 16.

He provides us with clear picture of challenges and maneuverings of our time and life. He cannot be arm twisted or cajoled to authenticate activities and performances that do not reflect Him. What makes us relevant in His sight is upright heart. **Psalm 15**

Note: it is not possible to have good actions from wrong motive; neither can you have a wrong action from a good motive. Cain and Abel is a good example.

- Do you have an understanding of your heart?
 - What prompting does your spirit give of your life? Psalm 139: 23-24
 - How upright is my heart...Psalm 51.

We shall continue by answering the question, why should we guard our heart.

Prayer: Lord search me and see if there be any wickedness in me. Deliver me from deceptions of my heart, Psalm 139: 23-24