

Guard Your Heart

Zack Johnson Open Championship winner's speech video

Proverbs 4:5-13

Where to find wisdom

- Older people (elders)
- God's Word
- People with expertise in your area of need or interest
 - Marriage
 - Parenting
 - Money/business
 - Breaking addiction
 - ???
- Wisdom is moving people into proper position in your life
 - There are some people with whom you need to spend more time, with others less!
 - Relationship Target (those closest to the bull's eye have the most influence over your life)

It's a heart thing {Proverbs 4:23}

- Say it, "It's a heart thing."
- NLT—Above all else, **guard your heart**, for it affects everything you do.
- Genesis 4:6-7, "So, the Lord said to Cain, 'Why are you so angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And it's desire is for you, but **you should rule over it.**'"
- **It's a heart thing.**
- Acts 5:3, "But Peter said to Ananias, 'Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit?'"
- It is startling to think that Judas' heart was torn away from Jesus, even walking with him daily.
- Satan's entrance to your life is an inside job. The door must be opened from the inside. You must guard your heart.

Proverbs 4:20-27

- Zack Johnson's testimony
- Don't ever lose sight of God's Word—read it. Keep God's Word in your hearing—teaching & preaching.
- **Deuteronomy 30:11-20**
 - Shalom—flourishing—abundant life
 - It is within our reach. It is not an unsolvable mystery.
 - It is found in your mouth and in your heart.
 - Chose life
- **Psalm 19:4**, "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer."

Close:

- ▲ Find wisdom in your relationships and in God's Word.
- ▲ Guard your heart. It affects everything in your life.

Discussion Guide

Read Proverbs 4:5-13

- What does it mean to pursue wisdom?
- Where will we find wisdom?
- What does it mean to highly value a thing? How can we place higher value on wisdom?

Read Proverbs 4:20-27

- The writer is training us how to guard our hearts in this passage. How do we guard our hearts?
- Why is it so important to guard our hearts?
- How do we attend properly to *God's Word*?

Read Deuteronomy 30:1-10

- What promises from *God* are found in these verses?
- What seems to be the key to unlocking the door to these promises?

Read Deuteronomy 30:11-20

- According to the writer, how difficult is this command?
- What does it mean that the "word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it?"
- How do we choose life?