

# Summer Schedule 6:00 – 8:30

July 31 - Class Picnic 2-5 PM

Dave and Sue Jellison's

# **August**

7

21

\*We will resume SNBF in the Fall, Sept. 11, when we start the book of Revelation.

# "The Heart of the Matter"

**Proverbs 4:23-27** 

July 24, 2016

# Prov 4:23-27

- 23 Watch over your heart with all diligence,
- For from it flow the springs of life.
- 24 Put away from you a deceitful mouth
- And put devious speech far from you.
- 25 Let your eyes look directly ahead
- And let your gaze be fixed straight in front of you.
- 26 Watch the path of your feet
- And all your ways will be established.
- 27 Do not turn to the right nor to the left;
- Turn your foot from evil.

I. The Priority of the Heart.

II. The Perverseness of the Mouth.

III. The Prize of the Eyes.

IV. The Path of the Feet.

- I. The priority of the heart.
  - 23 Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it flow the springs of life.
    - A. The heart is the center of our mind, emotions, and will.

# The Heart

- It is estimated that the heart pumps five quarts of blood every minute, 75 gallons an hour, and 70 barrels a day, and about 18 million barrels in seventy years.
- The Heart is the first that lives, and the last that dies.
- There is no part of the human body that is more important than the heart.

## The 3-chamber heart of man:

## 1. Mind

#### **Prov 23:7**

7 For as a man thinks in his heart, so is he.

## 2. Emotions

#### **Prov 15:13**

3 A joyful heart makes a cheerful face,

But when the heart is sad, the spirit is broken.

#### John 16:6

6 "But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.

#### Acts 21:12-13

- 12 When we had heard this, we as well as the local residents began begging him not to go up to Jerusalem.
- 13 Then Paul answered, "What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart?

## 3. Will

#### Rom 6:17

7 But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed,

#### 2 Cor 9:7

7 Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

## The Problem of the Heart

#### Jer 17:9

- 9 "The heart is more deceitful than all else
- And is desperately sick;
- Who can understand it?

#### Mark 7:21-23

- 21 "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries,
- 22 deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness.
- 23 "All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man."

#### Ps 14:1

4 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."

#### Heb 4:7

- 7 "TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,
- DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS."

#### **Prov 28:14**

- 14 How blessed is the man who fears always,
- But he who hardens his heart will fall into calamity.

#### **Prov 20:9**

- 9 Who can say, "I have cleansed my heart,
- I am pure from my sin"?

# Man Needs a New Heart

# Ps 51:10

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God,

# Ezek 36:26

26 "Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

# 1 Sam 16:7

7 But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

## The Desires of a New Heart

## 1. Thank Him.

## Ps 86:11

12 I will give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, And will glorify Your name forever.

## 2. Seek Him.

## Ps 119:2

2 How blessed are those who observe His testimonies, Who seek Him with all their heart.

## 3. Love Him

## Luke 10:27

27 And he answered, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND; AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

"The Heart is used in Scripture as the most comprehensive term for the authentic person. It is the part of our being where we desire, deliberate, and decide. It has been described as 'the place of conscious and decisive spiritual activity, the comprehensive term for a person as a whole; the feelings, desires, passions, thought, understanding and will, and the center of a person."

- Joe Stowell

Fan the Flame

# B. Therefore your heart is the most important thing you need to guard.

- "natsar" means to guard, be vigilant, keep, observe, watch, discern.
- C. The heart must be guarded "with all diligence". "diligence" means above all keeping, keep your heart.
  - more than keeping your house
  - more than keeping your family
  - more than keeping your job
  - more than keeping your health
  - more than keeping your car
  - more than keeping anything else

# "Why? Because of constant arrivals and departures.

- It is like the Capitol with people entering and leaving.
- It is like an airport with planes taking off and planes landing.
- It is like the MOA, with people coming and going.

# Prov 4:23-27

23 Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it flow the springs of life.

# Should children be encouraged to:

- invite Jesus into their heart?

- or to give their heart to Jesus?

## **Proverbs 27:19**

19 As in water face reflects face, So the heart of man reflects man.





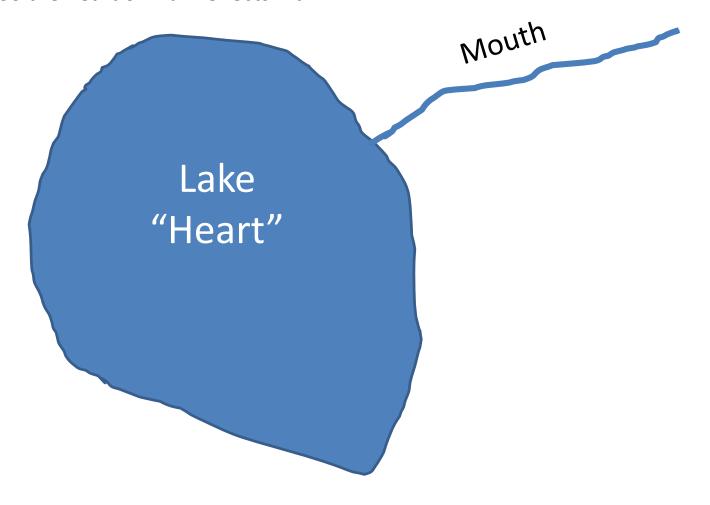


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# II. The perverseness of the mouth.

24 Put away from you a deceitful mouth And put devious speech far from you.

## Matt 15:18-19

- 18 "But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man.
- 19 "For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.

## Luke 6:45

45 "The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.

## **Prov 17:20**

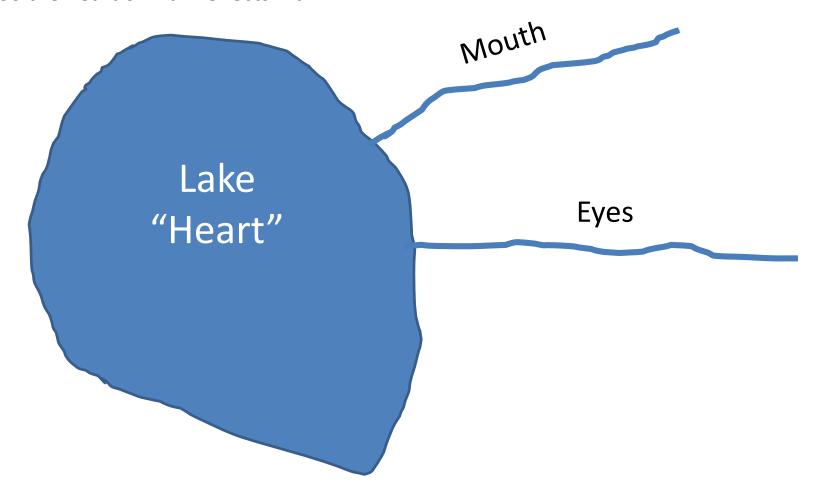
- 20 He who has a crooked mind finds no good,
- And he who is perverted in his language falls into evil.
- What comes out of the mouth? That which is false, all lies, foolishness, deception, all filthiness, swearing, everything opposing the truth, justice, and the law of God, things which are contrary to reason and the moral law of God written on man's heart.

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- III. The prize of the eyes.
  - 25 Let your eyes look directly ahead And let your gaze be fixed straight in front of you.

## Ps 101:3

3 I will set no worthless thing before my eyes;

"I will neither delight in it, aim at it or endure it. If I have wickedness brought before me by others I will turn away from it, I will not gaze upon it with pleasure. The psalmist is very sweeping in his resolve, he declines the least, the most reputable, the most customary form of evil -- no wicked thing; not only shall it not dwell in his heart, but not even before his eyes, for what fascinates the eye is very apt to gain admission into the heart,"

- C H Spurgeon

# III. The prize of the eyes.

# 25 Let your eyes look directly ahead And let your gaze be fixed straight in front of you.

## Ps 101:3

3 I will set no worthless thing before my eyes;

## Ps 119:37

37 Turn away my eyes from looking at vanity,

#### 1 John 2:15-16

- 15 Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
- 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

#### Phil 3:13-14

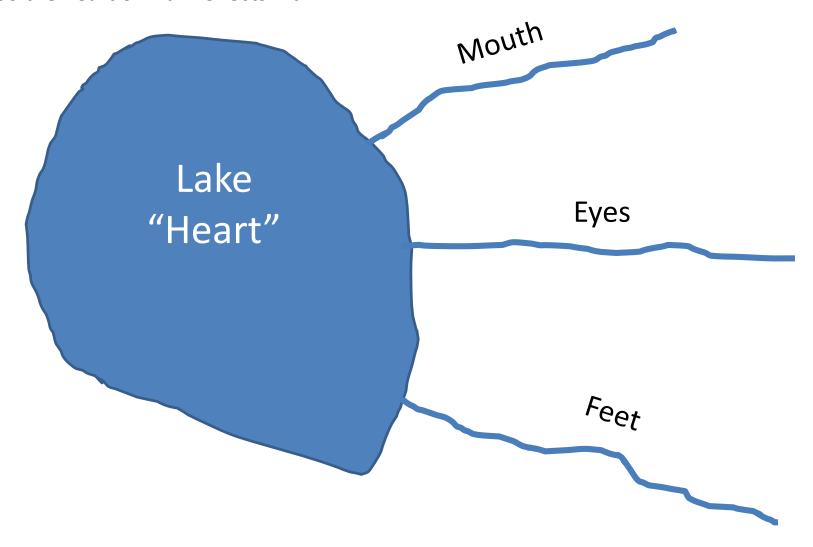
- 13 Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,
- 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

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  - 26 Watch the path of your feet

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## Ps 1:1

How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked,

Nor stand in the path of sinners,

Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!

# Ps 119:35

35 Make me walk in the path of Your commandments, For I delight in it.

# Ps 119:105

- 105 Your word is a lamp to my feet
- And a light to my path.

# Prov 4:14-15

- 4 Do not enter the path of the wicked
- And do not proceed in the way of evil men.
- 15 Avoid it, do not pass by it;
- Turn away from it and pass on.

"The heart is the "master-control" of the life; a wrong heart always produces a wrong life. To allow sin into the heart is to pollute the entire life... Live in God's Word and He will protect your path, direct your path, and perfect your path, for the glory of Jesus Christ."

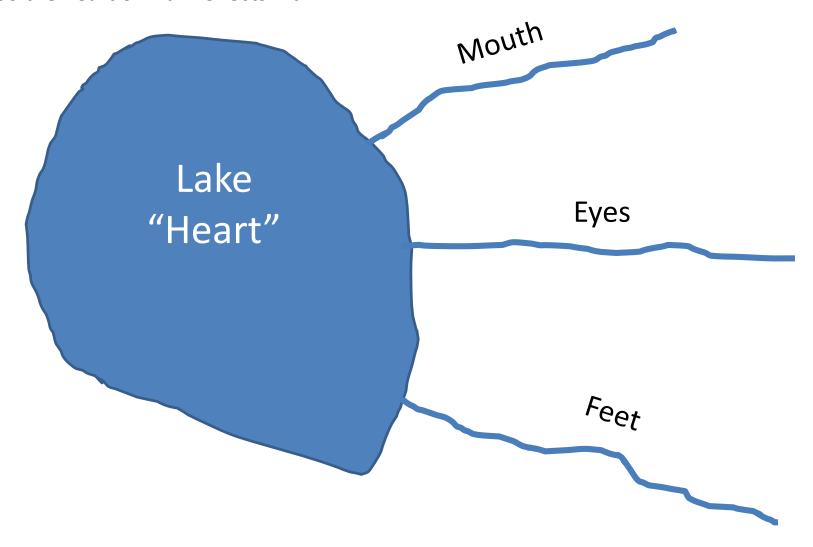
- Warren Wiersbe

"It avails little to plant watchers on the stream half way to the sea. Control must be exercised at the source, if it is to be effectual."

- Anon.

**Proverbs 27:19** 

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**Eddie Espinosa** 

"During my time of being in God's presence, sin and attitudes of the heart were suddenly glaring me in the face. I realized that in order for me to walk uprightly before the Lord, I needed a heart transplant. I desperately needed for God to change my heart in order to love the things that He loves and to hate the things that He hates. I also was aware that only He could change my heart. I began to sing without paying attention to the melody, it just flowed from the depths of my being. "

# **Change My Heart Oh God**

Change my heart Oh God, make it ever true. Change my heart Oh God, may I be like You.

You are the potter, I am the clay, Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart Oh God, make it ever true. Change my heart Oh God, may I be like You.

# **Application**

- 1. "Killing" (putting to death) sin in my heart is a never ending battle.
- 2. The resources with which to battle sin and clean-up the "lake" of my heart come from an outside source. The Word of God and the Spirit of God are both needed to act together on my heart.
- 3. Therefore my desire and decision each day must center on getting time before God in His Word, and praying and asking God to become the focus of my mind, my emotions and my will.
- 4. Trials can be a blessing because we are more likely to have our heart focused on God and His Word.
- Put restraints on your heart as to what you will see and watch, where you will go, and what you will allow to influence your heart.
- 6. Calculate how much of your time is being spent inputting "worthless" stuff into your heart.
- 7. Refuse to go places that will expose you to temptation.