A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you*: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh.* Ezekiel 36:2

Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life. Proverbs 4:23 NIV

What the Bible Tells Us About the Heart

The subject of the heart is addressed in the Bible more than all other topics; more than belief, obedience, money, works or grace or even worship. **The heart is central to everything in the Bible.**

You need to understand your heart and your spiritual life.

The heart is God's connecting point with you and your connecting point with others. Everyone recognizes a person who is living from his or her true core. **It is the genuine you.**

How to Guard Your Heart

Guard your heart- more than any treasure, for it is the source of all life. Proverbs 4:23 Knox

You're in charge of guarding your own heart. No one else can do it for you including God.

1. The Heart is the Key to Kingdom Living

Jesus is the Master of showing us how to live life from the heart. Every single moment was pure and transparent and everyone knew it.

To live life beyond the surface requires that we learn to live life from our heart. **This necessitates living with _____.**

O Corinthians! We have spoken openly to you, ***our heart is wide open****.* 2 Cor. 6:11. - ***Live in the realm of the heart of God.***

Heart connections is how the Kingdom works.

Christians need to learn and use the language of the heart.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable i*n Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.* Psa. 19:14

The heart of the wise teaches his mouth*, and adds learning to his lips.* Proverbs 16:23

Core Point: Issues of life are issues of the heart. Your heart is the pivotal center of your life. Learning to live from the heart is vital to living life as God has designed for you.

2. The Heart is the Key to Relationships

Without usually defining it, **what people are really looking for is someone who is living from their heart.**

Successful relationships come **from a trust that is only found on the heart level.** Your influence with others is determined by the quality of your heart.

"Do all that is in your heart. Go then; here I am with you, according to your heart." 1 Samuel 14:7

The Cost of Living from the Heart - Living from the heart **isn't easy**.

- To those you give the most often reject you the most.
- When you share your heart, it is often misunderstood.
- Living from your heart puts you on the target range of life.
- When you give it all, some will never think you give enough.
- Some will question **your motives**, and **that hurts the most**.

Don't Lose Heart - *Therefore we do not lose heart.* 2 Cor. 4:16

The biggest challenge people face today is they are *losing their heart,* because of the **warfare against _____.**

Living from the heart is being challenged because the enemy knows **the image of God in us is seen in our heart.** He is working at getting us to live on any level but the heart level.

3. The Heart is the Key to Your Relationship with God

You shall love the Lord your God ***with all your heart****.* Matt. 22:37

What does it mean to love God with all your heart?

Jesus is talking about an internal motivation that should drive us. We are to be compelled in all things, by a love for God; we are to have a passion for God. There is an intimacy God is looking for that gets to the core of things.

Our faith in God has its source **in the heart**. Romans 10:9-10

Where your treasure is, ***there your heart will be also****.* Matthew 6:21

What we treasure reflects our passion and we will have a passion for what we consider to be our treasure.

The key is releasing the passion and power of your relationship with God is found by the secret of living from the heart.

Believe from your heart. Pray to God from your heart.
Speak to Him and others from your heart. Dream from your heart.
Most of all - Love from your heart.

Core Statement: I will guard and maintain my heart, to keep it safely in devotion to God. I will refuse to allow wrong things to accumulate and work at keeping my heart pure, and I will be blessed!