



Guard Your Heart—Proverbs 4:23

Philippians 4:6-7 *“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”*

- a) The peace of God keeps our hearts. Peace is a result of our focus. If we want to stay in peace, we need to keep our mind focused on the right things (Romans 8:6).
- b) Prayer and supplication with thanksgiving position our requests to be made known unto God and the result is the peace of God which in return keeps our hearts.

Satan and people are all after your heart. People will hurt you and do you evil. You need to learn to guard or keep your heart. Satan is competing for hearts of men and women. We are in a heart battle. Whoever makes you mad or angry, controls you! Don't let people rent space in your heart nor head.

Guarding your heart helps you survive in life, ministry, and leadership. People will say things about you. It can get lonely the higher you go. People will say mean things, call you a cult, false accusation (oh boy!). The very same people Jesus came for are the very ones that killed Him.

God wants to heal hearts that have been damaged and wounded.

Keys to guarding your heart

① Identity in Christ

- a) 2 Corinthians 5:17-18 *Therefore if any man **be** in Christ, **he is** a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things **are** become new. 18 And all things **are** of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;*

② God's love for you

- a) John 15:9 *“As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.”*

③ Forgiveness

④ Stop listening

- a) Proverbs 19:27 *Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge.*

- ⑤ Ephesians 6:10
- ⑥ Who called you? This will keep you going!
- ⑦ Fellowship with the LORD
- ⑧ God's opinion about you!
- ⑨ Looking unto Jesus

Guard your heart from:

- ① Criticisms—non-Constructive (destructive)

- a) Not all criticism is to be received. There is criticism that is designed to cause you to quit.

- ② Offense—Ecclesiastes 10:4; Matthew 18.7; Luke 17:1

- a) 1 Corinthians 10:32 *"Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God:"*

- b) 2 Corinthians 6:3 *"Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed:"*

- c) Philippians 1:10 *"That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;"*

- i) If you are offended, there will be a lack of sincerity.

- d) Acts 24:16 *"And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men."*

- ③ Strife—James 3:6

- ④ World—Sewage, Corruption, trash, filth, stupidity of the world, News, Insane scream media.

- ⑤ Mother-in-law—Just kidding!!