

Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life. Avoid all perverse talk; stay away from corrupt speech. Look straight ahead, and fix your eyes on what lies before you. Mark out a straight path for your feet; stay on the safe path. Don't get sidetracked; keep your feet from following evil. Proverbs 4:23-27 (NLT)

Safe Path

Do you want to walk on a safe path? Do you want to walk on the path of life? Do you want to keep from being sidetracked? Do you want to keep your feet from following evil? Yes, I want to walk on the path of life with you. Yes, I want to walk on a safe path that is the path of life? How can I walk this way and live this life? **That is a very good question. Do you want to answer that question, or should I?** I would prefer that you answer this question for me. **That I will do. If you want to walk on the path of life you must, above all else, guard your heart. The condition of your heart will guide the entire course of your life. Make no mistake about it, the world, the flesh, and the devil will try to corrupt and pollute your heart and mind and life. You must distance yourself from evil of every kind. You must avoid perverse talk. You must stay away from corrupt speech.** How will I ever be able to overcome the world, the flesh, and the devil? Is that a battle I can fight? Is that a war I can win? **What do you think?** Under my own power, with my own strength. I will never be victorious. **That thought is correct. Do you think that I am asking you to fight with your own power and strength?** No, I do not. **Why is that?** You would never give me a battle I can't fight or a war I can't win. **No, I would not. What must you do?** I must rely on you. **That is correct. If you want to walk on a safe path, that is the path of life, you must keep your heart and mind and eyes focused on me. I will lead you. I will guide you. I will guard and protect you. Keep looking straight ahead. Follow me to where I lead you. Do what I ask of you. Live the life I have given to you. Will you do that?** Yes Lord, I will. **That will be very good.**

Lord, I will, above all else, guard the condition of my heart. I will not wander off the safe path. I will avoid perverse and corrupt talk. I will look straight ahead and keep my heart, mind and eyes firmly fixed on you. I will keep on loving, following and serving you. Amen

Key Question...

How are you keeping your eyes firmly fixed on the Lord as you walk through life with Him?

Living It Out...

Above all else, guard your heart so you can stay on the safe path with the Lord.

Seeing It Happen...

Have faith that the Lord will help you to guard your heart so you can stay on the safe path with Him.

Get Ready To Share...

Share with another person or your small group how you are guarding your heart to stay on the safe path with the Lord.

Prayer To Bless Others...

May you, above all else, guard your heart so you can stay on the safe path with the Lord.

Promises *Guard Your Heart*

Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life. Put away perversity from your mouth; keep corrupt talk far from your lips. Let your eyes look straight ahead, fix your gaze directly before you. Make level paths for your feet and take only ways that are firm. Do not swerve to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil.

NIV Proverbs 4:23-27

Promises *Guard Your Heart*

Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life. Avoid all perverse talk; stay away from corrupt speech. Look straight ahead, and fix your eyes on what lies before you. Mark out a straight path for your feet; stay on the safe path. Don't get sidetracked; keep your feet from following evil.

NLT Proverbs 4:23-27

Promises *Keep Your Heart*

Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life. Put away from you crooked speech, and put devious talk far from you. Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you. Keep straight the path of your feet, and all your ways will be sure. Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil.

NRSV Proverbs 4:23-27

Promises *Keep And Guard Your Heart*

Keep *and* guard your heart with all vigilance *and* above all that you guard, for out of it flow the springs of life. Put away from you false *and* dishonest speech, and willful *and* contrary talk put far from you. Let your eyes look right on [with fixed purpose], and let your gaze be straight before you. Consider well the path of your feet, and let all your ways be established *and* ordered aright. Turn not aside to the right hand or to the left; remove your foot from evil.

AMP Proverbs 4:23-27

Promises *Watch Over Your Heart*

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

NASB Proverbs 4:23-27

Promises *Keep Your Heart*

Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life. Put away from you crooked speech, and put devious talk far from you. Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you. Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure. Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil.

ESV Proverbs 4:23-27

Promises *Keep Your Heart*

Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it *spring* the issues of life. Put away from you a deceitful mouth, And put perverse lips far from you. Let your eyes look straight ahead, And your eyelids look right before you. Ponder the path of your feet, And let all your ways be established. Do not turn to the right or the left; Remove your foot from evil.

NKJV Proverbs 4:23-27

Promises *Watch Over Your Heart*

Keep vigilant watch over your heart; *that's* where life starts. Don't talk out of both sides of your mouth; avoid careless banter, white lies, and gossip. Keep your eyes straight ahead; ignore all sideshow distractions. Watch your step, and the road will stretch out smooth before you. Look neither right nor left; leave evil in the dust.

MSG Proverbs 4:23-27

Promises *Guard Your Affections*

Above all else, guard your affections. For they influence everything else in your life. Spurn the careless kiss of a prostitute. Stay far from her. Look straight ahead; don't even turn your head to look. Watch your step. Stick to the path and be safe. Don't sidetrack; pull back your foot from danger.

TLB Proverbs 4:23-27

Promises *Be Careful What You Think*

Be careful what you think, because your thoughts run your life. Don't use your mouth to tell lies; don't ever say things that are not true. Keep your eyes focused on what is right, and look straight ahead to what is good. Be careful what you do, and always do what is right. Don't turn off the road of goodness; keep away from evil paths.

NCV Proverbs 4:23-27

Guard Your Heart

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Promises – Proverbs 4:23-27

In Context: *Read Proverbs 4*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Guard your heart | above all else, | for it determines | the course of your life. | Avoid all perverse talk; | stay away from | corrupt speech. | Look straight ahead, | and fix your eyes on what | lies before you. | Mark out a straight path | for your feet; | stay on the | safe path. | Don't get sidetracked; | keep your feet | from following evil. Proverbs 4:23-27 (NLT)

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I will, above all else, guard the condition of my heart. I will not wander off the safe path. I will avoid perverse and corrupt talk. I will look straight ahead and keep my heart, mind and eyes firmly fixed on you. I will keep on loving, following and serving you. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

What is most likely to tempt you to leave the safe path and wonder into great danger on an evil path?

How are you, above all else, guarding your heart so you can stay on the safe path with the Lord?

Why will the condition of your heart determine the entire course of your life?

How are you avoiding all perverse and corrupt so that it does not corrupt your heart and mind?

How are you keeping your eyes firmly fixed on the Lord as you walk through life with Him?

When have you got sidetracked and let your feet stray into doing what was evil?

When have you confessed your sins and returned to walking on the safe path with Him?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Above all else, guard your heart so you can stay on the safe path with the Lord.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will help you to guard your heart so you can stay on the safe path with Him.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how you are guarding your heart to stay on the safe path with the Lord.

Close With Prayer:

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you, above all else, guard your heart so you can stay on the safe path with the Lord.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will, above all else, guard my heart so I can stay on the safe path with you.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I guard my heart today so I can stay on the safe path with you?
