

Above All Else

Scripture Reading — Matthew 22:37-40

*Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.
Proverbs 4:23 —*

Today brings us to the end of our study of Proverbs and its theme of wisdom. While there may be some sayings that stick with us more than others, our goal hasn't merely been to read some witty words. We've pursued wisdom in order to shape our hearts and mold our characters so that we can think and act wisely for good in this world. Wisdom is really about becoming like Christ.

In Scripture, the heart is the vital center of our moral, spiritual, and intellectual life. Our heart is the expression of our core identity. Everything flows from our heart. So if that is where Christ dwells and if that is what we are shaping with wisdom—then protecting our heart becomes a high priority.

We could try to guard our heart by shielding it from bad influences, but there is a more positive way to strengthen our heart. Jesus reminds us that beyond merely obeying commands is God's call to love. The final purpose of our heart is to show love for God and others. The best way to protect our heart is to make sure that it is filled with love for God. And that happens when Wisdom resides there, when the Spirit of Christ lives within us. Becoming people of wisdom is about becoming people who reflect the character of Jesus.

May God bless your journey as you pursue the wisdom he wants you to have.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, in a world full of distractions, help me guard my heart. May it be the wellspring of love for you and your kingdom in every part of my life. In your name I pray. Amen.

Devotion topics: [Wisdom](#), [Life](#), [Christian Life](#)

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