



Today's Message

Date: January 18, 2015
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas
Title: ***Guard Your Heart***

Text: Proverbs 4:10–27 (ESV)

- ¹⁰ Hear, my son, and accept my words,
that the years of your life may be many.
- ¹¹ I have taught you the way of wisdom;
I have led you in the paths of uprightness.
- ¹² When you walk, your step will not be hampered,
and if you run, you will not stumble.
- ¹³ Keep hold of instruction; do not let go;
guard her, for she is your life.
- ¹⁴ Do not enter the path of the wicked,
and do not walk in the way of the evil.
- ¹⁵ Avoid it; do not go on it;
turn away from it and pass on.
- ¹⁶ For they cannot sleep unless they have done wrong;
they are robbed of sleep unless they have made someone stumble.
- ¹⁷ For they eat the bread of wickedness
and drink the wine of violence.
- ¹⁸ But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn,
which shines brighter and brighter until full day.
- ¹⁹ The way of the wicked is like deep darkness;
they do not know over what they stumble.
- ²⁰ My son, be attentive to my words;
incline your ear to my sayings.
- ²¹ Let them not escape from your sight;
keep them within your heart.
- ²² For they are life to those who find them,
and healing to all their flesh.

- ²³ Keep your heart with all vigilance,
for from it flow the springs of life.
- ²⁴ Put away from you crooked speech,
and put devious talk far from you.
- ²⁵ Let your eyes look directly forward,
and your gaze be straight before you.
- ²⁶ Ponder the path of your feet;
then all your ways will be sure.
- ²⁷ Do not swerve to the right or to the left;
turn your foot away from evil.

Today's take-home truth: Guard your heart: resist foolishness with determination and pursue wisdom with consistency.

I. Part 1: Don't even set foot on the wrong path. 10-19

- A. Please listen! 10-13
- B. Vigorously avoid the path of the fool. 14-17
1. You must avoid it with determination. 14-15
 2. You must avoid it because evil enslaves the fool. 16-17
- C. The two paths are as different as day and night. 18-19

II. Part 2: Focus your whole life on staying on the right path. 20-27

- A. Again, please listen! 20-22
- B. The right path is a matter of the heart. 23
- C. Guard your heart by making consistent choices. 24-27