MMBS Study Proverbs
Luke McNeely | Week 3 | 12/6/23

Text: Proverbs 3:6-8; 4:20-27

To the Hebrew, the heart described the **CORE** of a person.
Stonegate's Definition - "It's the you that makes you, you."

Main Idea: "The condition of your heart determines the PATH of your life and the IMPACT of your life."

Point 1: A Rightly Focused Heart Leads to a STRAIGHT Path (Proverbs 3:5-8)

This Hebrew verb translated "trust" is cognate with an arabic verb that means to throw oneself down on one's face, to lie down spread-eagle in complete reliance – to make it as graphic as I can, to do a belly-flop on God with all our sin and all our failure and all our fears. We take everything on the gospel promises of God. If God fails us, we are damned. If God comes through, we are saved forever. Real trust is that blunt and daring and simple.
Kent Hughes, "Proverbs that Works"

Straight Path = A blessed life that avoids unnecessary pain.
Verse 13 – HAPPINESS

Verse 23 – Avoids Stumbling

Verse 24 – REST

Verse 25 – Won't Fear

Verse 26 – Avoid STUMBLING

How can we have a rightly focused heart?

- **We must take seriously the GREAT COMMANDMENT.**

  Deuteronomy 6:5-6:"5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. 6 These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart.

  Matthew 22: 37, "He said to him, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind."

- **We must take seriously GUARDING our hearts.**

  Proverbs 4:23 Guard your heart above all else, for it is the source of life.

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Questions for Guarding your Heart:

1. What are you LISTENING to? (verse 20)

2. What are you SAYING (verse 24)

3. What are you LOOKING at? (verse 25)

4. Where are you GOING? (verse 26)

5. What are you BELIEVING?

1 Peter 5:8 Be sober-minded, be alert. Your adversary the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion, looking for anyone he can devour.

Point 2: A Rightly Focused Heart Determines Your Impact.

David – "A man after God's own heart"

Psalm 51:10 God, create a clean heart for me and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Solomon – "Wisest man in the world"

1 Kings 11:4 When Solomon was old, his wives turned his heart away to follow other gods. He was not wholeheartedly devoted to the Lord his God, as his father David had been.

Discussion Questions:

1. What stood out to you from today's lesson?
2. When it comes to the "guarding your heart" questions, which ones need the most attention from you?
3. Why do you think David and Solomon had issues guarding their hearts?
4. How can the men around you pray for one another this week?