Guard Your Heart: Scripture on Imagination, Eye Gate, and Ear Gate

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Guard Your Heart — The Only Thing You Can Truly Guard

Proverbs 4:23 (NKJV)

> *Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life.*

We guard children, diets, finances, and the stock market — yet God says the **one thing you can guard is your heart**. Everything else is outside. Guard your heart, and God guards what is outside.

How God's Word Enters Your Heart

Proverbs 4:20–22 (NKJV)

> *My son, give attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart. For they are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh.*

Gate	Action	Result
Ear gate	Incline your ear to God's sayings	Word enters through hearing
Eye gate	Do not let God's word depart from your eyes (your vision)	What you see shapes your heart
Heart	Keep them in the midst of your heart	Life + health to all your flesh

- God's norm for daily life is receiving from **His Word** — daily bread, not Sunday-only bread
- Open eye and ear gates to God's word — not human words that bring fear or depression

- No side effects — joy, peace that passes understanding
- Gifts of the Spirit can operate instantly, but God's pattern is: word → heart → manifestation

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What Is the Heart? (Not Your Spirit)

Part	Hebrew / Greek	Connects With
Spirit	ruach / pneuma	God
Soul (mind)	—	Your surroundings
Body	—	Physical world
Heart	**lev / cardia**	**Imagination & vision**

We are tripartite: **spirit, soul, body**. The heart is a separate biblical term — not the same as your spirit. Learn the heart by **what it does**, like recognising a wolf by its howl, not just its appearance.

- **John 14:27** — "Let not your heart be troubled" — guard the heart; God guards the outside
- Bad news comes? Quote the verse under your breath — guard your heart
- Only the Holy Spirit and Christ in you should occupy your heart

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Yetzer — Imagination That Creates

The Hebrew word **yetzer** (imagination) appears in Scripture as both noun and verb — and to God, imagination is **creative**, not passive daydreaming.

Verse	Yetzer Used As	Meaning
Genesis 6:5	Noun	Every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually — flood followed

Verse	Yetzer Used As	Meaning
Genesis 8:21	Noun	After Noah's sacrifice — yetzer of man's heart is evil from youth; God promises no more flood
Genesis 2:7	Verb (*formed*)	God **formed** (yetzer) man from dust — same root as imagination; God forms, imagination forms your life
Ephesians 1:18	—	"Eyes of your heart" = vision, imagination — spirit of wisdom operates here
Matthew 5:28	—	Lust in the heart = the act already committed — imagination is the deed to Jesus

Wisdom & Imagination

- Ask daily for the **spirit of wisdom and revelation** (Ephesians 1:17–18)
- Wisdom brings length of days, riches, honour, pleasure, peace (Proverbs)
- God speaks through **pictures** — visions (eyes open) and dreams (eyes closed)
- Best time to practice godly imagination: during prayer — watch pictures the Holy Spirit brings

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Meditate With Pictures, Not Words Alone

Psalm 1:3 (NKJV)

> *He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.*

1. **See** the tree — green leaves, rivers of water, planted (not wild)
2. **Say** — "I'm that man / that woman — planted by the Lord"
3. **Repeat** — "Whatever I do prospers" until you arrive at work without fear
4. **Meditate** (Hebrew *haggah*) — mutter under your breath day and night (Joshua 1:8)

Key insight: God’s Word is full of pictures. Meditation is seeing, not only reading words.

Heart Before Mouth — Order Matters

Matthew 12:34 (NKJV)

> *Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.*

Step	What Happens
1. Heart	Fill heart by time in the Word — imagination saturated with Scripture
2. Mouth	Confession flows from what already fills the heart
3. Life	Issues of life flow out (Proverbs 4:23)

- Salvation: believe in heart → confess with mouth (Romans 10:9–10)
- Not: talk a lot and hope the heart fills later
- When unwell: fill imagination with healing Scriptures — “You are my hiding place…”

Daily Guard Checklist

1. Read God’s Word daily — ear gate + eye gate open
2. Refuse fear/depression words into eye and ear gates
3. When troubled — quote **John 14:27** under your breath
4. Pray with open imagination — watch Holy Spirit pictures
5. Meditate Scripture as **vision**, not words only
6. Let mouth speak from a heart already filled with God’s Word

Remember: With all your guarding, guard your heart — for out of it come the forces of life.

Key Scriptures at a Glance

Reference	Theme
Proverbs 4:20–23	Ear gate, eye gate, guard heart
Genesis 2:7 / 6:5 / 8:21	Yetzer — form & imagination
Ephesians 1:17–18	Spirit of wisdom; eyes of heart
Matthew 5:28	Imagination = the act
Matthew 12:34	Heart abundance → mouth speaks
John 14:27	Let not your heart be troubled
Psalm 1:3	Tree by rivers — picture meditation
Joshua 1:8	Meditate day & night → prosperity
Romans 10:9–10	Heart believes → mouth confesses