The Heart

Wisdom for the Holidays | Proverbs 4:23
Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)
“A change in behavior that does not stem from a change in heart is not commendable; it is condemnable.”

–Shepherding a Child's Heart by Tedd Tripp
The heart matters most.
8 “These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.
9 They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.”
We all have defective hearts.
The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

Jeremiah 17:9 (NIV)
Who can say, “I have kept my heart pure; I am clean and without sin”?

Proverbs 20:9 (NIV)
The Holy Spirit can change our hearts.
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Salvation
25 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. 26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

Ezekiel 36:25-26 (NIV)
27 And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

Ezekiel 36:27 (NIV)
The Holy Spirit can change our hearts.

Salvation | Sanctification
Then he taught me, and he said to me,  
“Take hold of my words with all your heart;  
keep my commands, and you will live.

Proverbs 4:4 (NIV)
We work with God’s heart change.
Blessed is the one who always trembles before God,
but whoever hardens their heart falls into trouble.

Proverbs 28:14 (NIV)
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6. By guarding who we give our hearts to (Prov 7:25; 23:1, 26; 26:25).
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7. By seeking God’s way and not our own (Prov 18:2; 19:3; 23:19).
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- We all have defective hearts.
- The Holy Spirit can change our hearts.
- We work with God’s heart change.