

## **EXPERIENCING the POWER of “ONE ACCORD”**

*“...they lifted up their voice to God with one accord...And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.” Acts 4:24, 31-33 (KJV)*



### ***This Week’s Thought – February 14, 2016***

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*“Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.” Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)*

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**“How’s your heart?”** Did you know that the quality of your life depends on the health of your heart? The Bible tells us that the heart is the seat of all actions of life. Joe Stowell in *Fan The Flame* says that “The Heart is used in Scripture as the most comprehensive term for the authentic person. It is the part of our being where we desire, deliberate, and decide. It has been described as “the place of conscious and decisive spiritual activity,” “the comprehensive term for a person as a whole; his feelings, desires, passions, thought, understanding and will,” and “the center of a person. The place to which God turns.” (J. Stowell, *Fan The Flame*, Moody, 1986, p. 13.)

This teaching in Proverbs says everything in our life flows from our heart. Our hopes, our dreams, our fears, our anxieties, our anger, our forgiveness, our humility, our peace, our greed, our generosity, our love: yes everything, who we are is what’s in our heart. So, above all else our heart needs a guard—God is our guard. When the Holy Spirit fills our heart by faith—He flushes out sin and leaves room only for the fruit of the Spirit. Only a heart guarded by God can bear up under the influence of ungodliness. A heart submitted to Christ in prayer is protected by Christ with peace.

*“And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:7)*

Unhealthy heart conditions include: faintheartedness, loss of heart, a broken heart, a foolish and a hard heart. The remedy for these spiritual ailments is a whole heart for Jesus.

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You may feel fainthearted—weary in your faith and work—if so slow down, rest and allow the Spirit to restore your heart to wholeness. Hope in Christ gives your heart peace and reassurance. Perhaps your heart is broken by past hurt or present rejection. Seek your heavenly Father to be forgiven and to forgive.

Be on guard, for a foolish heart forgets God or even stops believing God. Excessive worry can be a form of atheism, because when we are paralyzed by fear and anxiety we act like God does not exist; so we guard against a foolish heart by gaining a heart of wisdom. The wise seek the Lord to learn who to be and what to do. Most disturbing is a hard heart—someone jaded by injustice and/or the lack of integrity in others. Fortunately, by faith in Jesus our hard heart can be replaced by a heart born from above. A heart from the Lord gives us a heart for the Lord.

*“A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.”*  
(Luke 6:45)

So, how’s your heart? Take sometime today on this Valentine’s Day 2016 and/or during this month of February deemed ‘American Heart Month’, but I want you to examine your heart as you consider that that salvation, sanctification, and service are all a matter of the heart.

**Words from the Master during your time of reflection this week: “As your thinking goes, so goes your entire being. Let Me be your positive Focus. When you look to Me, knowing Me as God with you, you experience Joy. This is according to My design when I first crafted man. Modern man seeks his/her positive focus elsewhere: in sports, sensations, acquiring new possessions, etc. Advertising capitalizes on the longing of people for a positive focus on their lives. I planted that longing in human souls, knowing that only I could fully satisfy it. Delight yourself in Me; let Me become the Desire of your hear.”**  
(Psalms 139:1-2; Matthew 1:23; Psalm 37:4)

*“And then God answered: "Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time.”* Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King