God looks on the heart

• 1Sa 16:7 ESV But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart."

Our heart is a motivation for our actions

Moving us to the will of God

 Act 13:21-22 ESV 22 And when he had removed him [King Saul], he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, 'I have found in David the son of Jesse <u>a man after my heart, who will do all</u> <u>my will.'</u>

Or moving us toward evil

Mar 7:20-23 ESV And he said, "What comes out of a person is what defiles him. 21 <u>For from within, out of the heart of man</u>, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, 22 coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. 23 All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

When we become a Christian - the HEART is affected

God deals with the core of our being

- Act 16:14 ESV One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul.
- Rom 10:9 ESV because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and **believe in your heart** that God raised him from the dead, **you will be saved**.
- Gal 4:6 ESV And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying,
 "Abba! Father!"

Guard your heart

The heart is affected by the word of God

• Pro 4:20-23 ESV 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**.

The heart is affected by prayer

- Psa 51:10 ESV Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
- 2Th 3:5 ESV May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.