



Proverbs 4:23-27 | Responsibility & Concern 06.14.20

When we fulfill our God-given responsibilities, many benefits occur.

- God is honored.
- Joy is in our hearts.
- Others are treated in a Christ-exalting way.
- Our church is encouraged and more effective.

Who determines our responsibilities?

1. Our thoughts and emotions are not trustworthy. **Proverbs 28:26**
2. Our spiritual enemy is the father of lies. **John 8:44**
3. Our culture is self-deceived and deceives. **Colossians 2:4**
4. Wrong friends support sinful attitudes and actions. **1 Corinthians 15:33**
5. Good friends can unintentionally mislead. **Proverbs 14:15**
6. Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. **John 14:6**

Christ has already defined our roles. He did not save us to leave us on our own.

1. Expectations can often be good if they are realistic, but at times, they are unrealistic.
2. Expectations are subjective and often inconsistent because they are based on a personal perspective.
3. Biblical expectations are consistent for all people at all times.

Proverbs 4:23-26 *Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life. ²⁴Put away from you a deceitful mouth, And put perverse lips far from you. ²⁵Let your eyes look straight ahead, And your eyelids look right before you. ²⁶Ponder the path of your feet, And let all your ways be established. ²⁷Do not turn to the right or the left; Remove your foot from evil.* Have you ever noticed

1. Way I speak | v. 24
2. What I look at | v. 25
3. Where I go | vs. 26-27

Proverbs 28:13 *He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.*

1. Do you see your heart as a God-given responsibility to protect?
2. Do you understand that your heart is capable of misleading you?
3. What are you doing to protect your heart for Christ?

Read Proverbs and note the passages that deal with our responsibilities.

The following are examples from Proverbs 1.

1. Be teachable in receiving God's truths.

Proverbs 1:5



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| 2. Kids, listen to the godly counsel from your parents. | Proverbs 1:8-9 |
| 3. Do not give in to the temptations that come from others. | Proverbs 1:10 |
| 4. God's wisdom speaks through His Word, listen, and embrace her. | Proverbs 1:20-23 |

My responsibility to Scripture | How am I doing?

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| 1. Read it. | Matthew 4:4 |
| 2. Study it. | 2 Timothy 2:15 |
| 3. Delight in it. | Psalm 119:16, 35 Psalm 19:7-11 |
| 4. Meditate on it. | Psalm 119:15 |
| 5. Memorize it. | Psalm 119:11 |
| 6. Apply it. | James 1:22 |
| 7. Share it. | Matthew 28:18-20 |

2 Timothy 3:16-17

- 1. Doctrine/Teaching** – There are various views to hold and numerous paths to take in this life. God's Word provides clear direction on what is accurate.
- 2. Reproof** – At times, in walking God's path, we step aside due to a lack of trust, yielding to temptation or open rebellion. The Bible reveals our heart and exposes where we have erred.
- 3. Correction** – God's Word does not just tell us where we went wrong but corrects us and reveals to us how to spiritually get back on track.
- 4. Instruction/Training** – Once we get back on God's path, He does not just leave us in neutral but provides for us clear and practical instruction of how to lead a God-honoring, Jesus-pleasing, Holy-Spirit directed life of peace and meaning.

There is no greater insight into problem solving than having the motives of the heart revealed.

Write Out Hebrews 4:12-13.

My responsibilities as a Covenant Member of Grace Baptist Church:

I will protect the unity of Grace...

- by acting in love toward other members (1 Peter 1:22).
- by using my words to build up one another (Ephesians 4:29).
- by following the leaders of Grace (Hebrews 13:17).

I will share the responsibility of Grace...

- by praying for the leaders, members, ministers, and growth of Grace (Ephesians 6:18-19).
- by inviting the unchurched to attend services (Luke 14:23).
- by warmly welcoming those who visit (Romans 15:7).

I will serve the ministry of Grace...

- by discovering my gifts and talents and using them at Grace (1 Peter 4:10).
- by allowing myself to be equipped for the work of the ministry by my pastors (Ephesians 4:11-12).
- by developing a servant's heart (Philippians 2:3,4, & 7).

I will support the testimony of Grace...

- by attending faithfully (Hebrews 10:25).
- by living a godly life through the power of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-25).
- by regular financial giving (1 Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7).