

Guarding the Heart

A & B are puppets. T is a teacher/human.

At rise: B has a package of heartworm pills for dogs. A enters and stops him from taking one.

A: Hey, you can't take that! Its dog medicine. You should never take or even touch medicine unless your parents or the doctor are giving it to you. Or a nurse.

B: I was just doing what the Bible said.

A: The Bible doesn't say to take dog medicine.

B: Yes, it does. Listen to this. Proverbs 4:23 Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

A: So?

B: Read the package. This is Hartguard medicine. My mom says we have to give it to our dog to guard his heart. I didn't think my dog would mind sharing. We're best friends.

A: The Bible isn't talking about taking pills for heartworms. It is talking about your spiritual heart.

B: Oh. How do you guard that?

A: Dunno. Let's ask our teacher. What does the Bible mean about guarding our hearts?

T: Imagine your heart as being the home of your spirit. Satan wants to get in and rob you of all your joy, peace, love....

B: The fruits of the spirit!?

T: Yes, Satan would like to take all that away. Now listen to what Jesus said in Mark 3:

27In fact, no one can enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man. Then he can rob his house.

T: If you rely on yourself to be the strong man and guard your house, what do you think will happen if Satan comes to rob you?

A: I would try to fight him off because I don't want Satan anywhere around me.

B: I would too but I'm afraid I wouldn't be strong enough to do it alone. I'd need to hire a guard to help me.

A: Maybe one of those professional wrestler guys. They are pretty big. But now that I think about it, probably they aren't as strong as the devil.

T: I can think of only one person who beats the devil every time.

B: Jesus!

A: That's right. Jesus. But isn't he pretty busy? Does he have the time to do that?

T: Let's read what he says in Revelation 3:20. Can you read it for everyone to hear?

B: Sure. Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.

A: So Jesus is ready and waiting to come into our hearts and guard it. We just have to open the door.

T: Right. Jesus talked about this in the book of John too. Read this.

B: I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

T: Who do you think are the sheep in this story? (*Gets help from audience*)

A: So Jesus is like a shepherd who guards his sheep and we are the sheep.

T: Yes.

B: What about the wolf? Is that the same wolf that is in the Three Little Pigs?

T: Audience – who do you think the wolf represents? (*Gets ideas*)

A: So the devil or Satan is like a wolf looking for a sheep to steal or hurt.

B: Or a robber looking for a heart to steal from?

T: Yes, he is. The Bible says he prowls around like a lion looking for someone to eat.

A: Tell you what I'm going to do instead of taking dog pills. I'm going to invite Jesus into my heart and never ask him to leave.

B: Me too. I want his protection from wolves and robbers.

T: I do to. Let's all sing "Into my Heart"