


## **QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:**

- 1. Since 2012 started: “Did you experience anything exciting that has happen to you yet?”**
- 2. Have you set a resolution/goal for yourself this coming year? And if you have, did you share it with someone and ask him/her to hold you accountable?**
- 3. What is the state of your heart in relationship to the Lord?**
- 4. Do you have a stubborn heart? Perhaps in some ways, but not in others?**
- 5. What helps you to have an open, repentant, compliant, and a tender heart?**



# The Mysterious Human Heart

## **Proverbs 4:23**

**Keep thy heart with all diligence;  
for out of it are the issues of life (KJV).**

**Above all else, guard your heart,  
for everything you do flows from it (NIV)**

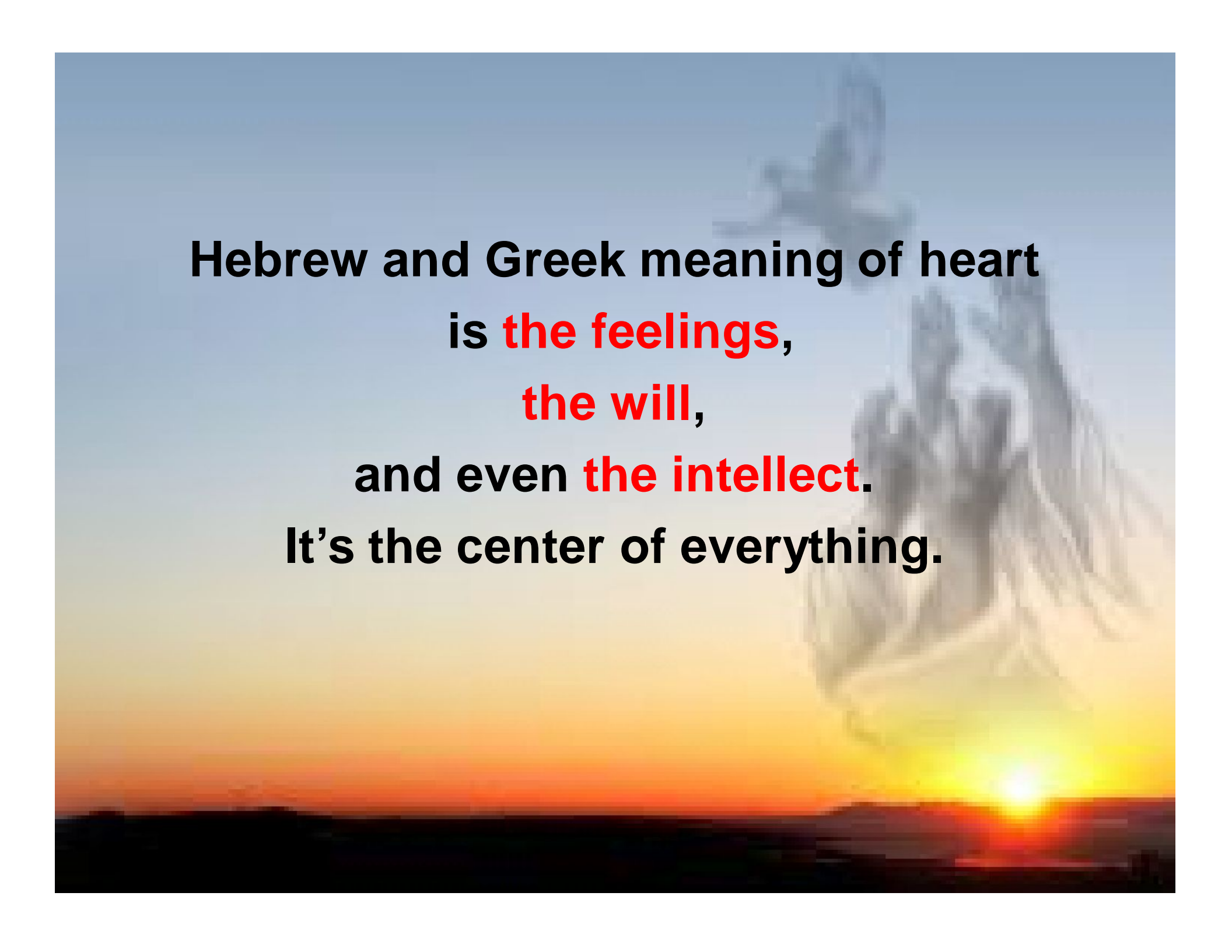
**Watch over your heart with all diligence,  
For from it flow the springs of life (NASB).**

**Keep vigilant watch over your heart;  
that's where life starts (MSG).**



## **Webster's definition**

**The heart is that it is a hollow muscular organ of vertebrate animals that by its rhythmic contraction acts as a force pump maintaining the circulation of the blood.**



**Hebrew and Greek meaning of heart  
is **the feelings,**  
**the will,**  
and even **the intellect.**  
It's the center of everything.**



- **Satan knows:**

**That if he can change our thoughts, he can change our attitudes,  
- and if he changes our attitudes, he can change our actions,  
- and if he can change our actions, he can change our goals,  
- and if Satan can change our goals, he'll get what he has always wanted- the destruction of our marriages, the destruction of our families and the destruction of our churches.**

## Proverbs 4:23b: **(A)from it flow**

**Matthew 12:35: <sup>35</sup> (A)The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil.**

1. **Matthew 15:18 But (A)the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man.**
2. **Matthew 15:19: (A)For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, [a]fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.**
3. **Mark 7:21: For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, [a]fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries,**

**Proverbs 4:23b: (B)the springs of life.**

**Psalms 16:11: You make known to me (A)the path of life; in your presence there is (B)fullness of joy; at your right hand are (C)pleasures forevermore.**

**Matthew 7:14 (A): For the gate is narrow and (A)the way is hard that leads to life, and (B)those who find it are few.**

**Psalm 21:6 (B):<sup>6</sup> For you make him most blessed forever;[a] you make him glad with the (A)joy of your presence.**

**Psalm 36:8 (C):<sup>8</sup> They feast on (A)the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from (B)the river of (C)your delights.**



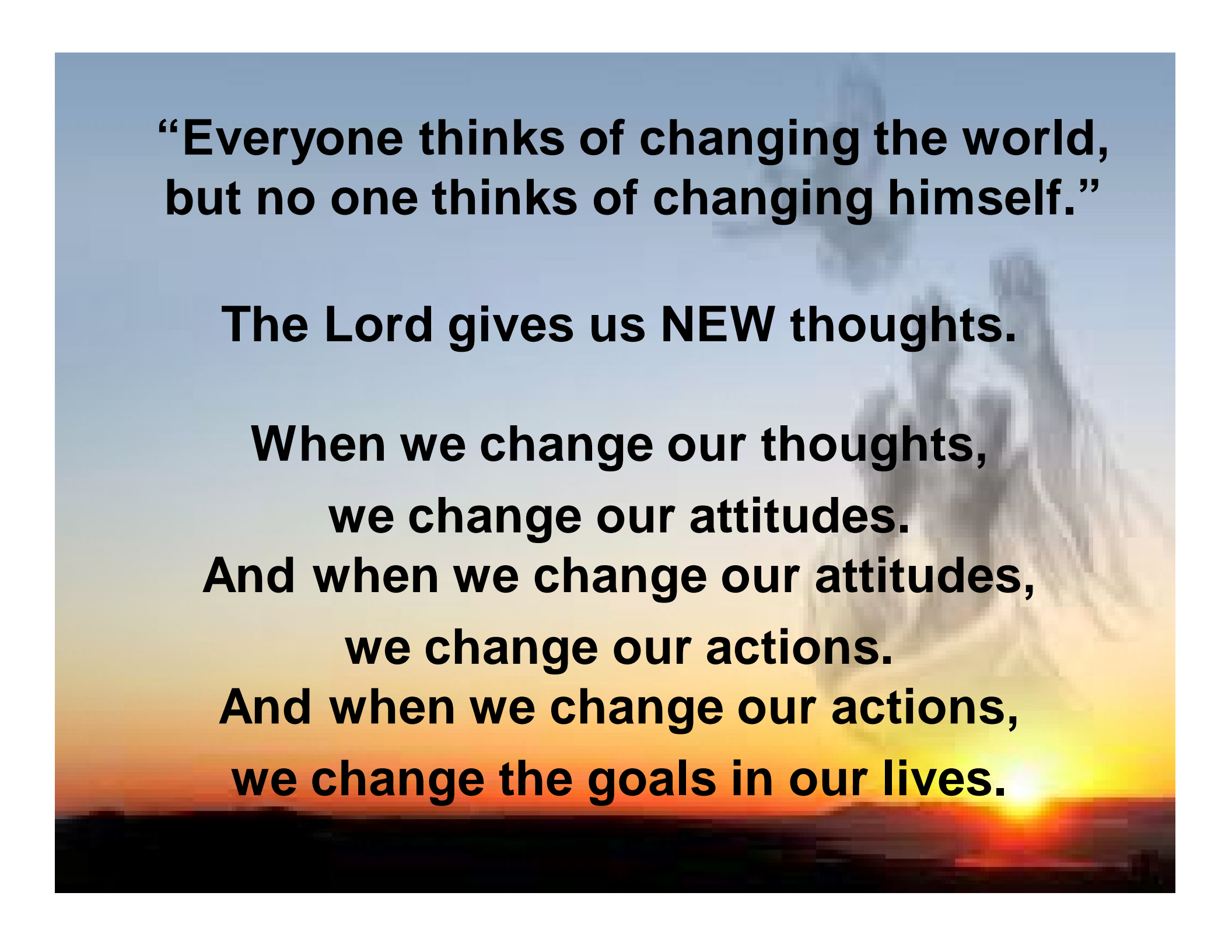
## **Isaiah 29:13-16**

**The LORD says,**

**“These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.**

**Their worship of me is based on mere human rules they have been taught.”**

**God Wants Your Heart**



**“Everyone thinks of changing the world,  
but no one thinks of changing himself.”**

**The Lord gives us NEW thoughts.**

**When we change our thoughts,  
we change our attitudes.  
And when we change our attitudes,  
we change our actions.  
And when we change our actions,  
we change the goals in our lives.**



**The question we need to ask  
ourselves is:**

**Does God have your heart,  
or just your religious  
obedience?**