

“Oh, Be Careful!”

Introduction. It is so important for Christians to keep their lives pure (Matthew 5:8). When our minds are constantly being exposed to wickedness, our hearts will become contaminated. We are taught in 1 Thessalonians 5:22 to abstain from every form or kind of evil. It is easy to say that just a little bit of bad will not hurt us, but that is simply not true.

One of the neatest ways to remember to keep ourselves pure is with the kid’s song, “Oh, be careful.” This is a familiar song, but sadly, we call it a “kid’s song” and as we get older we tend to not think about or sing. Because of the label we put on “kid’s songs,” we forget how meaningful they are. As we investigate the verses of this song, we will see that it is full of great spiritual lessons.

I. “Watch Your Eyes, What They See”

- A. David knew that looking at wickedness could cling to him (Psalm 101:3). The images and mental pictures could stay engraved in his mind, and David refused to let that happen (cp. Matthew 6:22-23).
- B. There are a lot of instances of men and women in the Bible who were led to sin because of what they saw with their eyes:
 - 1. Potiphar’s wife (Genesis 39:7).
 - 2. Achan (Joshua 7:21).
 - 3. Samson (Judges 14:1).
- C. Are you careful about what you see online, on TV, or in a movie? We will give account for what we take in with our eyes — especially our entertainment choices. Do not give in to lust (2 Peter 2:14; 1 John 2:16). If there is something ungodly, change the channel, quit the browser, or just look away!

II. “Watch Your Ears, What They Hear”

- A. Would what we listen to be approved by Philippians 4:8? There is a progression that occurs when we constantly hear what is wicked. What we hear shapes our thoughts. Our thoughts shape our actions. Our actions shape our habits. Our habits shape our character. Finally, our character shapes our eternal destiny.
- B. In 1 Corinthians 15:33 Paul was warning the Corinthians not to listen to those who say there will not be a future resurrection. People you call “friends” can lead you into error and away from God (cp. 1 John 4:1)!
- C. It is always good for someone to hear the word of God (Matthew 13:23), for they are like a wise man (Luke 6:47-48). Be swift to hear the counsel of scripture (James 1:19, 25) and you will be blessed (Proverbs 12:15; 19:20).

III. “Watch Your Lips, What They Say”

- A. We all know that cursing and taking God’s or Jesus’ name in vain is sinful. But, this song does not just apply to obvious sins of the tongue. It also applies to more subtle forms of sinful communication (1 Peter 3:10).
- B. Ephesians 4:29 and 5:4 provides the guideline for proper speech. Do not be crude and offensive in what you say. Instead, speak what will build each other up

and abstain from what will tear each other down. Practice your gracious speech (Ecclesiastes 10:12; Colossians 4:6).

- C. Also, make sure your speech is truthful and without malice (Matthew 5:22, 37; James 4:11). Be ready to use your lips to confess Christ and stand for His truth (Matthew 10:32; 1 Peter 3:15).

IV. “Watch Your Hands, What They Do”

- A. This is the most general of the lessons in this song, encompassing every action we perform. What we do can defile us (Matthew 15:19-20), so we need clean, holy hands (Job 17:9; 1 Timothy 2:8).
- B. The guidelines for righteous action are expressed in Jesus’ response to the question from the scribe, “Which is the first commandment of all?” (Mark 12:28-31). His response was to love God and others. Loving our neighbor is explained in the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37). It means to do good to others, no matter who they are — providing their needs and showing mercy to them, no matter the dangers or risks.
- C. Pilate tried to wash his hands of the guilt of putting Jesus to death, but it could not be done (Matthew 27:24). Likewise, we cannot wash our hands of benevolent deeds. This is not about doing good to those we like, but doing good to those we can. This action was both commanded and commended (Proverbs 3:27; 31:20). The Lord used His opportunities to bless people (Mark 10:16; Luke 24:50), and so should we.

V. “Watch Your Feet, Where They Go”

- A. Proverbs 4:26-27 says our ways will be established if we watch where we walk. The easiest way to be careful of what we see, hear, say, and do is to first be careful where we go. If our feet carry us to places which lend themselves to sin, we are more likely to sin.
- B. In the Gentile world, men’s feet were swift to shed blood (Romans 3:15). Paul instructed Timothy to flee youthful lusts and pursue righteousness (2 Timothy 2:22). That is something we do with our feet — we flee sin (Proverbs 1:15; 2:20).
- C. Let your feet be guided by God’s holy word (Psalm 119:59, 101, 105). Sit at the feet of Jesus and faithful brethren as they teach us (Luke 10:39). Then, go teach someone and let your feet be beautiful (Romans 10:15).

Conclusion. Do you have all of these in order? Are you careful when it comes to what you see, what you hear, what you say, what you do, and where you go? Or have you lost control of your actions? You have to work every day to keep the garbage out of your heart so it will be pure, holy, and acceptable to God (Romans 12:1-2).

“Oh, Be Careful!”

Watch your eyes, watch your eyes, what they see;
Watch your eyes, watch your eyes, what they see;
For the Father's up above, looking down in tender love;
Watch your eyes, watch your eyes, what they see.

Watch your ears, watch your ears, what they hear;
Watch your ears, watch your ears, what they hear;
For the Father's up above, looking down in tender love;
Watch your ears, watch your ears, what they hear.

Watch your lips, watch your lips, what they say;
Watch your lips, watch your lips, what they say;
For the Father's up above, looking down in tender love;
Watch your lips, watch your lips, what they say.

Watch your hands, watch your hands, what they do;
Watch your hands, watch your hands, what they do;
For the Father's up above, looking down in tender love;
Watch your hands, watch your hands, what they do.

Watch your feet, watch your feet, where they go;
Watch your feet, watch your feet, where they go;
For the Father's up above, looking down in tender love;
Watch your feet, watch your feet, where they go.

Watch your eyes, your ears, your lips, your hands, your feet;
Watch your eyes, your ears, your lips, your hands, your feet;
For the Father's up above, looking down in tender love;
Watch your eyes, your ears, your lips, your hands, your feet!