

Are Your Watchmen At The Gate

I Thes 4: 3 - 7

Story of small, weak town; it 3 gates and it's inattentive watchmen.

3 gates that Satan attacks thru.

Dealing with accounts – Men of Integrity - *Luke's message*
Checks and Balances
Accountability

Gate 1 – Eyes . . . story of Chiku at film

3 thieves that try and pass thru this gate

- *The stuff we feast our eyes on – Magazines, movies*
- *The advertising industry (Setlak Exhausts)*
- *The fashion industry*

The 2 watchmen for this gate

1). **Job 31:1** – not just a young man's struggle. How does one make a covenant with their eyes? My struggle as a young man in the days of chiffon – with hot hormones coursing thru my blood.

Story of pornography.

Gals – Turn the air-conditioning off

Guys – get up and sit elsewhere.

Billy Graham – the 2nd look.

Turning the TV or music off

2). **Accountability** – Talk about it to someone else.

- Your husband/wife may not necessarily be the best person to talk to about this as it raises a lot of insecurity.
- A spiritual mentor/ prayer triplet/ BS leader.

Gate 2 – Mind . . . Prince on the Matatu.

Many of us leave this gate unguarded and open, and so we are constantly attacked. The 3 thieves that invade us thru this gate are

- *The books and fantasies we feed our minds on*
- *The private thots we entertain*
- *The dreams we fantasize with.*

The 2 watchmen for this gate

1). **Honor God** with my thots, even in my dreams . . .

Ps 74: ¹⁶ The day is yours, and yours also the night;
you established the sun and moon.

2). **Accountability** : Call a lie a lie!

The Titanic . . . Prov 4:7 – 20

Masturbation – feeds on sinful thots

- Leads to bondage (I Cor 10:13)

Gate 3 – Heart . . . emotional attachments.

The reality of the **office vs the home** – home gets the dregs.

Electricity, energy, excitement, stress, accomplishment, motion. But home? In the morning it's rush, rush, rush . . . in the evening it's weariness and low energy. You spend ½ of your waking hrs – your best ½ at the office!

The 3 thieves – Denial : I am not aroused . . .

Justification . . . After all my wife . . .

Rationalization . . . It's OK – God forgives

Jer 17: ⁹ The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

Prov 4:23 - 27

The 2 watchmen for this gate

- 1). **Keep Professional Relationships** – define the boundaries of your office relationships.
 - No flirting
 - No course jokes
 - Dress and dress codes
 - No touch
 - No compromising situations
 - No compliments

- 2). **Accountability** . . . be suspicious of your heart. Have someone hold you accountable.

Women Vs Men – What we women can do for us
- what the men can do for the women