

HOW does God communicate with us? Creation tells us about God's "eternal power." The Bible reveals God's will. God provides us examples to follow in our church family. But if I'm going to build a relationship with my Creator, I must "hold" his word "fast in an honest and good heart" (Luke 8:15).

Notice how Solomon described it to his son in **Proverbs 3:1-3**:

My son, do not _____ my teaching,

but let your heart keep my commandments,

for length of days and years of life

and peace they will add to you.

Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck;

_____ them on the _____

of your _____.

As God's word is "written" on my heart, my God-given **conscience** is being shaped by my Creator. And what does that conscience **DO**?

- It can "_____" me "_____" the dangers of sin (Prov 7:1-5).
- It can _____ me of the truth when I'm being tempted to do something wrong.
- It can _____ me to do the next right thing, even when it's tough to do.

Our **consciences** are a wonderful blessing from our Creator and we ought to thank God for them!



FOUNDATION STONES

In your own words, what is a "conscience"? Where did **your** conscience come from?



Do we need more than **just** our consciences? Is it a big deal if I have a "clean" conscience, but I haven't been listening to God's word?

Why is THAT a REALLY bad idea?

Did you know that God warns us about our "consciences" being "seared" (I Timothy 4:2)? What does that mean? How does it happen? And why is it a really, **REALLY** dangerous thing?



Can you think of some ways our consciences:

- % Keep us from the dangers of sin?
- Remind us of the truth when we're being tempted to do something wrong?
- % Push us to do the next right thing, even when it's tough to do?