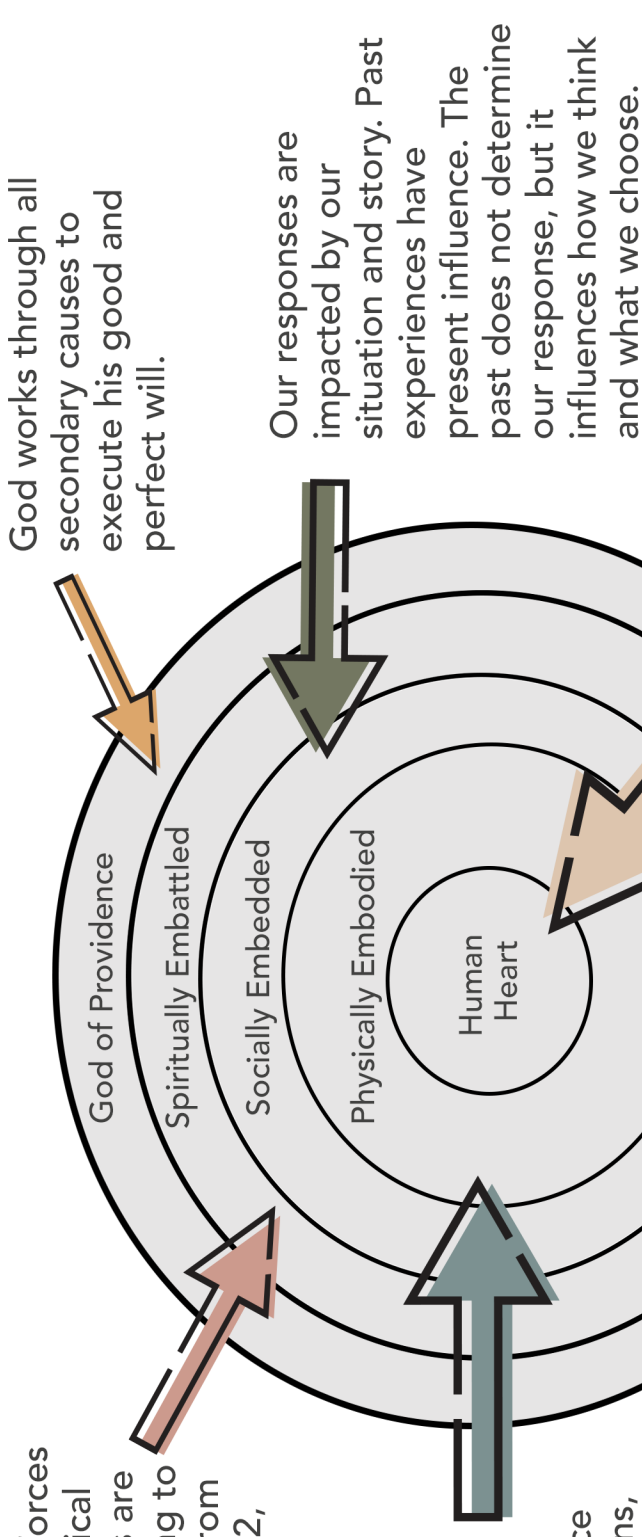


INFLUENCES ON THE HEART

There are spiritual forces at work in the physical world. The enemies are hard at work seeking to influence us away from God. Ephesians 6:12, 1 Peter 5:8



God works through all secondary causes to execute his good and perfect will.

Our responses are impacted by our situation and story. Past experiences have present influence. The past does not determine our response, but it influences how we think and what we choose.

Our hearts exist in a decaying, aging, and imperfect body. Our fallen bodies experience forgetfulness, joint pains, menopause, depression, cancer, etc. There is weakness that may not be connected to sin.

The heart is the center of human direction, behavior, thoughts, actions, and motivations.
Proverbs 4:23, Matthew 15:18