

Proverbs:

Wise & Joyful living in a world opposed to God

"Stay Away From Sexual Temptation" Prov. 5:1-23

Good morning! Thank you for being here in worship! Before we dive into the book of Proverbs, I'd like to offer this blessing and prayer to the Lord on your behalf:

Blessing & Prayer:

I offer to you this blessing & prayer from 1 Corinthians 1:4-9, "I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." Amen!

Introduction:

Proverbs 5:1-2 (ESV)

1 My son, **be attentive to my wisdom;**
incline your ear to my understanding,
2 that **you may keep discretion,**
and **your lips may guard knowledge.**

Listen to the Wisdom of the Lord

- Be attentive - pay attention - listen up
- Incline - focus, turn toward me and listen

This is to your benefit

- You will keep/preserve discretion
- Your lips guard/protect knowledge (integrity)

1. **5:3-14 Stay away from the flirtatious woman - She is not what she appears to be, don't trust her outward reputation - she has no internal character worthy of desire!**

Proverbs 5:3-5 (ESV)

3 For the lips of **a forbidden woman** drip honey,
and her speech is smoother than oil,
4 but in the end she is bitter as wormwood,
sharp as a two-edged sword.
5 Her feet go down to death;
her steps follow the path to Sheol;
6 she does not ponder the path of life;
her ways wander, and she does not know it.

Proverbs 5:7-14 (ESV) 7 And now, O sons, listen to me,
and do not depart from the words of my mouth.

8 **Keep your way far from her,**
and do not go near the door of her house,

Stay away from the forbidden woman

- Her mouth is a sweet deception
- Her words seem smooth as oil
- Her deception will end in bitterness
- Her path leads to death
- Her mind cannot see past pleasure & want
- Her house is a trap, don't go there!

STAY FAR AWAY FROM HER!

9 lest you give your honor to others
and your years to the merciless,
10 lest strangers take their fill of your strength,
and your labors go to the house of a foreigner,
11 and at the end of your life you groan,
when your flesh and body are consumed,
12 and you say, "How I hated discipline,
and my heart despised reproof!
13 I did not listen to the voice of my teachers
or incline my ear to my instructors.
14 I am at the brink of utter ruin
in the assembled congregation."

Because of her you will lose everything

- Your honor will be given to others
- Your achievements given to those who did not labor for it
- You will groan, in life and body
- You will reject discipline & reproof
- You will live in despair

2. 5:15-20 Stay close to home - Rejoice in the wife of your youth

Proverbs 5:15-20 (ESV)

15 Drink water from your own cistern,
flowing water from your own well.
16 Should your springs be scattered abroad,
streams of water in the streets?
17 Let them be for yourself alone,
and not for strangers with you.
18 Let your fountain be blessed,
and rejoice in the wife of your youth,
19 a lovely deer, a graceful doe.
Let her breasts fill you at all times with delight;
be intoxicated always in her love.
20 Why should you be intoxicated, my son, with a
forbidden woman and embrace the bosom of an
adulteress?

Stay close to home

- Your own **cistern** mean your "your own **wife**" the place of life giving, refreshing water
- Rhetorical question (an easy and obvious answer) "Should you give up your "springs, fountain," (meaning the ability to produce children) to a strange and unfamiliar death trap? NO, don't be absurd!
- Vs 18-19 Let the wife of your youth satisfy your heart, your passion and your desire
- Vs 20 "Why" another Rhetorical question - and the answer is just as easy! Easy sensual pleasure from a stranger never satisfies.

3. 5:21-23 Stay accountable to God - He sees all

Proverbs 5:21-23 (ESV)

21 For a man's ways are before the eyes of the LORD,
and he ponders all his paths.
22 The iniquities of the wicked ensnare him,
and he is held fast in the cords of his sin.
23 He dies for lack of discipline,
and because of his great folly he is led astray.

Stay Accountable to God

- You cannot escape what God sees and knows - he sees it all
- Keep a short account, with the Lord - repent of your lusts, your sinful desires, seek his mercy everyday
- The entanglement of sin for those who reject God's moral direction will lead him into folly and death

Jesus on the wisdom of sexual purity and integrity (faithfulness)-

Matthew 5:27-30 (ESV)

27 “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ 28 But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

Matthew 15:18-20 (ESV)

18 But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. 19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. 20 These are what defile a person.

Paul on the wisdom of sexual purity and integrity (Faithfulness)-

1 Corinthians 6:12-20 (ESV)

12 “All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. 13 “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food”—and God will destroy both one and the other. **The body is not meant for sexual immorality**, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14 And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. 15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! 16 Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.” 17 But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. 18 Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, **but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body**. 19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? **You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.**

Romans 13:11-14 (ESV)

11 Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. 12 The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. 13 Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Peter on the wisdom of sexual purity and integrity (Faithfulness)- **God know how to rescue you from temptation!**

2 Peter 2:9-10 (ESV)

9 then the **Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials**, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment, 10 and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority.