

Week 5 Proverbs

Sex

Reflection and Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever hiked a treacherous trail? What was it like? Have you ever been at a national or state park, and you saw folks not honoring the safety barriers in place? What did you notice?
2. Solomon in the passages below encourages his sons to stay on the path and to watch for danger. He describes temptation as a woman. What is deceiving about this personified temptation?
3. Maybe like crossing a barrier to get a more beautiful picture at National Park, what alluring satisfaction does your temptation seem to offer you?
4. Reading through the scriptures below, what is the ultimate end of temptation? Where does following your own temptation end?
5. Even knowing the dangers that come with temptations they can still consume us. They seem to be the only thing that will bring us life. Who are we ultimately listening to when we believe these lies?
6. What specific temptation is Solomon concerned about for his children in the passages below?
7. Does he propose staying away from sex? How does he encourage his son or children in their desire for sexuality?
8. What is the result in Proverbs 6:22-23 of pursuing this particular temptation?
9. What do chapters 5 and 6 encourage as practical tools against temptations?

10. This path of life is where we flourish today but also where we reside with Him forever. What is the ultimate hope for “staying” on the path of life?

*Spend some time now in silence “inclining your ear” and listening our wise Father who even more than Solomon, loves us His children and longs for our wholeness and flourishing on the path of life.

Sex & Cisterns:

Prov. 5:

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.
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.
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,
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.”
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?
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.

Proverbs 6

Warnings Against Adultery

20 My son, keep your father’s commandment,
and forsake not your mother’s teaching.
21 Bind them on your heart always;
tie them around your neck.
22 When you walk, they will lead you;
when you lie down, they will watch over you;
and when you awake, they will talk with you.
23 For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light,
and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life,
24 to preserve you from the evil woman,
from the smooth tongue of the adulteress.
25 Do not desire her beauty in your heart,

and do not let her capture you with her eyelashes;
26 for the price of a prostitute is only a loaf of bread,
but a married woman hunts down a precious life.
27 Can a man carry fire next to his chest
and his clothes not be burned?
28 Or can one walk on hot coals
and his feet not be scorched?
29 So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife;
none who touches her will go unpunished.
30 People do not despise a thief if he steals
to satisfy his appetite when he is hungry,
31 but if he is caught, he will pay sevenfold;
he will give all the goods of his house.
32 He who commits adultery lacks sense;
he who does it destroys himself.
33 He will get wounds and dishonor,
and his disgrace will not be wiped away.
34 For jealousy makes a man furious,
and he will not spare when he takes revenge.
35 He will accept no compensation;
he will refuse though you multiply gifts.