



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Speaker: Chris Royalty // Sunday: February 5, 2023

- 1) Begin your time by briefly praying and asking the Holy Spirit to help you as you discuss and study.
- 2) Read Proverbs 5:1-23 together.
- 3) What stuck out to you as you read? Is there anything you don't understand? Is there anything you'd like to discuss?

** All of Proverbs 5, concerns matters of sexual morality. The message of the passage is told from the point of view of a father to a son, who is warning his son about the temptation of illicit sexual activity. Though the passage uses the illustration of a "forbidden women" the ideas are applicable to everyone.*

- 4) Verses 3-4 talk about the nature of temptation. It is initially "sweet," but ultimately it is "bitter." Why is it sometimes hard to see that sin is ultimately bitter?
- 5) In this passage, Solomon warns his son that sin leads to death (verse 5). Jesus says something similar in the sermon on the mount (Matthew 5:27-30): "For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell." What do Solomon and Jesus mean? Does sin really lead to death? Why do we tend to think these statements are hyperbolic rather than literal? In other words, "is death really at stake?"
- 6) After warning his son that illicit sexual activity leads to death, in verses 7-14, Solomon encourages his son to avoid the temptation altogether. In verse 8 he says, "Keep your way far from her, and do not go near the door of her house." So, one solution to avoiding sexual sin is to avoid temptation when possible. What are some practical ways to avoid sexual temptation?
- 7) In verses 15-19, Solomon gives another instruction about avoiding sexual temptation, he encourages his son (when married) to regularly enjoy sexual activity with his spouse. Part of avoiding sexual temptation is to engage in sex in the way God has designed it. Do you think Christians take this command seriously? Why or why not?

- 8) How is the command in verses 15-19 help for those who are not married? Explain.
- 9) In verses 22-23, Solomon reminds his son that a man dies for lack of discipline. How does his reminder about discipline apply to the subject of this chapter? What does discipline in regard to sexuality look like?
- 10) End your time in prayer. Ask God to help you apply the things you've discussed and learned during this time of study.¹

¹ Some of these questions taken or adapted from Brownback, Lydia. Proverbs (Knowing the Bible) . Crossway. Kindle Edition.