Lessons in Proverbs -- Skill in Living

Proverbs 5 – Key Ideas

Read the whole chapter aloud. What is the one theme throughout this chapter? 5:1-6

To whom does Solomon address this chapter? vs. 5:1a

What two commands does Solomon give? Vs. 1

What is the purpose of those commands? Vs. 2

Why does he give those commands? Vs. 3

Compare and contrast Solomon's words to the woman's words? Vs. 3

What happens to the one who listens to the woman? Vs. 4

Where do the words of the woman lead? Vs. 5

Why is it important for Solomon's son to listen to words? Vs. 6

How has your role as a man or a woman reading this impacted you?

5:7-14

What is the significance of the "therefore" in verse 7?

What is the significance of the two commands in verse 8?

What are the results of not following the two commands in verse 8? Vss. 9-11

What regrets does one have when one does not follow the commands of verse 8? Vss. 11-14

How does the failure to listen to the commands of verse 8 affect his reputation? Vs. 14

5:15-20

What does he mean by "drink water from your own cistern"? vs. 15

What is a cistern?

What does he mean by "fountains"? vss. 16-17

In contrast to the immoral woman (vs. 3), how is one to think of his wife? Vs. 18

Rather than thinking about immoral women, what does Solomon want his son to think about? Vs. 19

What does "enraptured" mean? Why is it significant? Vs. 20

What does God think about sex? Vss. 15-20

5:21-23

Why is all that Solomon has said to his son about sexuality important? Vs. 21

What does God see?

Why is it important for a man to know what God sees? Vs. 22

What entraps the wicked man?

What leads to the death of the wicked man? Vs.23

Law: How is this chapter law to us?

Where does the law drive us? Romans 5:20a

Gospel: What does the gospel say to one who has broken God's law?

Romans 5:20b

²⁰ Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, (Rom. 5:20 NKJ)

Can a person who has committed many sexual sins be clean?

⁷ But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us (1 Jn. 1:7-10 NKJ)

NKJ Proverbs 5:1

My son, pay attention to my wisdom; Lend your ear to my understanding, ² That you may preserve discretion, And your lips may keep knowledge.

³ For the lips of an immoral woman drip honey,

And her mouth *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 lay hold of hell.

⁶ Lest you ponder *her* path of life— Her ways are unstable; You do not know *them*.

- ⁷ Therefore hear me now, *my* children, And do not depart from the words of my mouth.
- Remove 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 cruel *one*;
- ¹⁰ Lest aliens be filled with your wealth, And your labors *go* to the house of a foreigner;
- ¹¹ And you mourn at last, When your flesh and your body are consumed,
- ¹² And say: "How I have hated instruction, And my heart despised correction! ¹³ I have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, Nor inclined my ear to those who instructed me!
- ¹⁴ I was on the verge of total ruin, In the midst of the assembly and congregation."
- ¹⁵ Drink water from your own cistern,

NIRV Proverbs 5:1

My son, pay attention to my wisdom. Listen carefully to my wise sayings.

- ² Then you will continue to have good sense. Your lips will keep on speaking words of knowledge.
- ³ A woman who commits adultery has lips that drip honey.

What she says is smoother than oil.

- ⁴ But in the end she is like bitter poison. She cuts like a sword that has two edges.
- ⁵ Her feet go down to death.

Her steps lead straight to the grave.

⁶ She doesn't give any thought to her way of life.

Her paths are crooked, but she doesn't realize it.

⁷ My sons, listen to me. Don't turn away from what I say.

⁸ Stay on a path far away from that evil woman.

Don't even go near the door of her house.

⁹ If you do, you will give your best strength to others.

You will give the best years of your life to someone who is mean.

- ¹⁰ Strangers will use up all of your wealth. Your hard work will make someone else rich.
- ¹¹ At the end of your life you will groan. Your skin and your body will be worn out.
- ¹² You will say, "How I hated to take advice! How my heart refused to be corrected!

 ¹³ I would not obey my teachers.

 I wouldn't listen to those who taught me.
- ¹⁴ I was almost totally destroyed. It happened right in front of the whole community."
- ¹⁵ Drink water from your own well.

And running water from your own well.

16 Should your fountains be dispersed abroad, Streams of water in the streets?

Let them be only your own,
 And not for strangers with you.
 Let your fountain be blessed,
 And rejoice with the wife of your youth.

¹⁹ As a loving deer and a graceful doe, Let her breasts satisfy you at all times; And always be enraptured with her love. ²⁰ For why should you, my son, be enraptured by an immoral woman, And be embraced in the arms of a seductress? ²¹ For the ways of man are before the eyes of

the LORD,

And He ponders all his paths.

²² His own iniquities entrap the wicked *man*, And he is caught in the cords of his sin.

²³ He shall die for lack of instruction, And in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.

(Prov. 5:1-23 NKJ)

Drink running water from your own spring. ¹⁶ Should your springs pour out into the streets?

Should your streams of water pour out in public places?

¹⁷ No! Let them belong to you alone.

Never share them with strangers.

¹⁸ May your fountain be blessed.

May the wife you married when you were young make you happy.

¹⁹ She is like a loving doe, a graceful deer. May her breasts always satisfy you. May you always be captured by her love.

²⁰ My son, why be captured by a woman who commits adultery?

Why hug the wife of another man?

²¹ The LORD watches a man's ways. He studies all of his paths.

²² A sinner is trapped by his own evil acts. He is held tight by the ropes of his sins.

²³ He will die because he refused to be corrected.

His sins will capture him because he was very foolish.

(Prov. 5:1-23 NIRV)