

IV. How do we Maintain Discretion? How do we Stay Pure?

- A. Start with the Gospel According to Wisdom

- B. Make sure your lips preserve knowledge (vs. 2)

- C. *Keep to a path far from her; do not go near the door of her house...* (vs. 8)

- D. Cultivate Awareness of Presence of God (vs. 21)

- E. Ladies: What Speech are Your Clothes Making?

LIVE THE STORY

We must not only love the Gospel Story, we must begin to live the Gospel Story, indeed, to have the Central Character live in us.

- Why do you think God dedicated nearly 3 whole chapters (5-7) in Proverbs to the issue of male/female relationships?
- What is meant by the “unauthorized” or “forbidden” woman? Why is this more inclusive than only adultery?
- Why is it important to know who this instruction is from and to? How is it different than one of Paul's letters?
- Discuss each of the 4 reasons under “*Why Listen to the Father*” and what the text is saying about them. How do these reasons help you? Which one helps you the most?
- Discuss each of the 4 applications under “*How Do We Maintain Discretion?*” Locate these in the text (the 1st one isn't specifically there). How does each one help you in this fight? Which seems to be where you need to focus the most right now?
- Why is it so essential in this battle to never be wise in our own eyes? Why are we so prone to deception in this?
- How does life itself testify to the truth of this chapter?

Wisdom's Promise – Folly's Pain

Navigating Life's Most Exhilarating or Devastating Relationship

Jerry Cisar — May 16, 2010

Text: Proverbs 5

I. What is This Chapter About?

- A. ...the intimate relationship between a man and a woman.

- B. ... the deception of the “*unauthorized*” woman... (vs. 3)
 - i. ESV has it better: “forbidden” woman.
 - a) Lev. 10:1

 - b) not within the covenant boundaries or allowance.

 - c) Any woman who tempts you outside the boundaries of the marriage covenant!

- C. ...the source of the Truth and the source of those Lies
 - i. **The truth?** vs. 1 & 7

 - ii. **The lie?** vs. 23 and 12-13

 - iii. The source of Truth is not found in you, but outside of you. The source of the lie... is found inside you!

II. Who is Talking to Whom?

A. Who are the sons?

B. Was it Solomon to one of his sons, or all of his sons?

➤ Deuteronomy 6:7

C. These proverbs were given to every father to guide him in how to teach every son.

i. It is the God of our Fathers speaking through the fathers of his community to the sons of his community

➤ Galatians 3:29

ii. It is here to guide us as parents, and speak to us as sons and daughters.

III. Why Listen to the Father?

A. Because intimacy with the forbidden woman is deceiving (3-6)

B. Because the End Outweighs the Moment (7-14)

i. The Speech Made At the End of Life vs. 11-14

a) 11 *At the end of your life you will groan, when your flesh and body are spent.*

b) 12-13 *You will say, "How I hated discipline! How my heart spurned correction! I would not obey my teachers or listen to my instructors.*

c) 14 *I have come to the brink of utter ruin in the midst of the whole assembly.*

➤ ***A sin which begins in private pleasure ends in public pain.***

C. Because of the Blessing of Intimacy as God Designed It (15-20)

i. Water and it's sources

➤ 2 Kings 18 31

ii. Then the language of satisfaction gets a bit more specific (19-20):

D. Because of the One Who Sees All (21-23)