

Proverbs Series #5: Moral Discipline

Proverbs 5:7-23 ⁷So now, my sons, listen to me, and do not turn aside from the words of my mouth. ⁸Keep your path far from her; do not go near the door of her house, ⁹lest you concede your vigor to others, and your years to one who is cruel; ¹⁰lest strangers feast on your wealth, and your labors enrich the house of a foreigner. ¹¹At the end of your life you will groan when your flesh and your body are spent, ¹²and you will say, “How I hated discipline, and my heart despised reproof! ¹³I did not listen to the voice of my teachers or incline my ear to my mentors. ¹⁴I am on the brink of utter ruin in the midst of the whole assembly.” ¹⁵Drink water from your own cistern, and running water from your own well. ¹⁶Why should your springs flow in the streets, your streams of water in the public squares? ¹⁷Let them be yours alone, never to be shared with strangers. ¹⁸May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth: ¹⁹A loving doe, a graceful fawn— may her breasts satisfy you always; may you be captivated by her love forever. ²⁰Why be captivated, my son, by an adulteress, or embrace the bosom of a stranger? ²¹For a man’s ways are before the eyes of the LORD, and the LORD examines all his paths. ²²The iniquities of a wicked man entrap him; the cords of his sin entangle him. ²³He dies for lack of discipline, led astray by his own great folly. (BSB)

I. What are the details of this passage?

A. The main theme of this passage is **abstaining** from sexual immorality. V. 7-8

1. We lose our **witnessing** power when we willfully commit sin. V. 9

2. We give our **time** to someone who doesn’t care about us. V. 9

3. Our **wealth** is given to people who do not share our values. V. 10

4. We **waste** our youth on sin instead of God’s kingdom. V. 11

B. Discipline combined with **accountability** keeps us on task. V. 12-13

C. We **risk** having children out of wedlock and we **risk** disease. V. 14

D. God has given us **safe** boundaries for our sexuality. V. 15-20

E. We are accountable to **God**, who sees all that we do. V. 21-23

II. What are some ways to apply these truths?

A. Our **morality** is a great witnessing opportunity. This generation struggles with long term marriages. Our long term marriages will cause them to be curious how we did it.

B. Our passions must be channeled to **godly** pursuits.

C. Our wealth must be spent in **blessing** the activities that are god-honoring.

D. We will be healthier if we stay within the **boundaries** that God has given us.

E. We need to realize that we may fool others but we **cannot** fool God.

Hebrews 4:13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight; everything is uncovered and exposed before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account. (BSB)