

Women of Grace

Lesson 14 | Proverbs 5-7

Instead of mentioning his daughter, the father singles out his son because the male offspring is expected to assume the leadership in defining the family's identity and values (4:3–4; cf. Numbers 30)...Recall also that proverbs by nature are emblematic for many different situations. In other words, the proverbs are also addressed to the daughter and need to be applied appropriately in a way that looks at men through a woman's eyes.

—Bruce Waltke, *The Book of Proverbs, Chapters 1–15*, p. 117

Memorization Verse
James 1:17

Every good thing given
and every perfect gift is from above,
coming down from the Father of lights,
with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.

Outline
Proverbs 5-7

I. The War We Wage
II. The Warnings
III. The Whys and Wise Way to Walk
IV. The Watching One

DAY 1 | Guarding Against Temptation

Read Proverbs 5-7

1. From each of the following passages, what instruction is given, and how are wisdom and adultery contrasted?
 - a. Proverbs 5:1–5
 - b. Proverbs 6:20–24
 - c. Proverbs 7:1–5

- d. Considering that Solomon is advising his sons about the sin of adultery, why do you think he emphasized listening to the teaching of both the father and mother?

2. According to Proverbs 4:23, 6:25, and 7:25, what role does the human heart play in one's life?

3. In Proverbs 5:8 and 7:6–9 and 25, what practical instructions are given about fighting the enticement of adultery?

4. Using a dictionary, define "provision," found in Romans 13:14. How does this deepen your understanding of how to practically guard against the sin of impurity?

5. How does the idea of being "above reproach" in Philippians 2:15 and 1 Timothy 3:1–13 further your understanding of how to practically pursue godliness and flee from sin?
 - a. What are some practical steps you can take to guard your heart from temptation, specifically regarding personal purity?

DAY 2 | Portrait of an Adulteress

Read Proverbs 5-7

1. How is the adulterous woman described in Proverbs 2:16, 5:3, 6:24, and 7:5? Why is this description significant within the emphasis on wisdom in the whole book of Proverbs?

2. From Proverbs 2:16, 5:3, 6:24, 7:5 and 21, what specific tactics does the seductress use to lure the young man to join her?
 - a. How do you recognize flattery and manipulative speech in your own life? What type of speech should characterize the child of God? Use Scripture to support your answer.

3. How do Proverbs 2:16–22 and 5:5–6 expose the seriousness of the adulteress' sin? How does it relate to one's fear of the Lord from Proverbs 1:7?

4. In what ways do you justify sin in your own life? What steps can you take to recognize your sin for what it is?

DAY 3 | Counting the Cost of Sin

Read Proverbs 5-7

1. From the following verses, what is the consequence or result of choosing adultery?
 - a. Proverbs 5: 9–14

- b. Proverbs 6:27–35

 - c. Proverbs 7:22–23
2. In Proverbs 5:21, what encouragement to pursue righteous and wise living is given?
- a. How would a continual meditation on this truth affect your life? Be specific.
3. How might counting the cost and consequences of a specific sin be beneficial to you today?
4. Read Romans 8:1–4 and 1 Corinthians 6:9–11. What hope does Paul offer those who have committed adultery?
- a. In your own life, how could you practically support those who have either repented from adultery or those who have been sinned against?

DAY 4 | Fidelity and Joy in Marriage

Read Proverbs 5-7 and selected Scriptures

NOTE: Psalms 51 and 32 are penitential psalms written by David after his affair with Bathsheba and his murder of Uriah, her husband.

1. According to Psalm 51, against whom did David sin, and how was he restored? Cite specific verses.
2. From Psalm 32, what do you learn about sin and confession, and forgiveness and grace?
3. In contrast to the destructive love of an adulteress, Solomon urges his son to pursue a pure and right love. From Proverbs 5:15–19, in whom is the son to delight and love?
4. In Genesis 2:22–24, Proverbs 18:22, 19:14, how is marriage described?
5. From Ephesians 5:25–33, to what is marriage compared? How does that deepen your understanding of the covenant of marriage?
 - a. If you are married, what practical thing can you do this week to love, submit to, and respect your husband? If you are widowed or single, how can you encourage women around you who are married to grow in their commitment to their husbands?

- b. Regardless of your marital status, how can you grow practically this week in your personal devotion to the Lord?

DAY 5 | The Faithfulness of God

Read Hosea 1-3, 11 and selected Scriptures

NOTE: "Hosea's message contains much condemnation, both national and individual, but at the same time, he poignantly portrays the love of God toward His people with passionate emotion. Hosea was instructed by God to marry a certain woman, and experience with her a domestic life which was a dramatization of the sin and unfaithfulness of Israel. The marital life of Hosea and his wife, Gomer, provide the rich metaphor which clarifies the themes of the book: sin, judgment, and forgiving love."
- John MacArthur, *The MacArthur Study Bible*, p. 1225

1. According to Hosea 1:2 and 2:13, how had God's people sinned against Him?
 - a. What does this teach you about the faithfulness of God?

2. From 2:17-23 and 11:8-12, what did God promise to do for those who turned from their sin?
 - a. What does this teach you about the faithfulness of God?

3. From 1 Corinthians 10:13, 2 Timothy 2:3-13, and 1 John 1:9, how does God's faithfulness relate to the believer's present state of sin and future glory?

4. From Psalms 62:5–8 and 63:8, what characteristics of God are particularly meaningful to you? How can trusting Him be a source of joy and comfort to you, and motivate you towards greater love and obedience?