



W I S D O M

ORDERING OUR LIVES WITH
THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

LIBERTI



“Now suppose you came to a country where you could fill a theatre by simply bringing a covered plate on to the stage and then slowly lifting the cover so as to let every one see, just before the lights went out, that it contained a mutton chop or a bit of bacon, would you not think that in that country something had gone wrong with the appetite for food?”



And would not anyone who had grown up in a different world think there was something equally strange about the state of the sex instinct among us?"

C.S. LEWIS



1. Sexual wisdom that leads to life

PROVERBS 5:15-19 ESV

- ¹⁵ Drink water from your own cistern,
flowing water from your own well.
- ¹⁶ Should your springs be scattered abroad,
streams of water in the streets?
- ¹⁷ Let them be for yourself alone,
and not for strangers with you.



1. Sexual wisdom that leads to life

PROVERBS 5:15-19 ESV

¹⁸ Let your fountain be blessed,
and rejoice in the wife of your youth,
¹⁹ a lovely deer, a graceful doe.

Let her breasts fill you at all times with delight;
be intoxicated always in her love.



1. Sexual wisdom that leads to life

1 CORINTHIANS 7:3-5 CSB

³ A husband should fulfil his marital duty to his wife, and likewise a wife to her husband. ⁴ A wife does not have the right over her own body, but her husband does. In the same way, a husband does not have the right over his own body, but his wife does. ⁵ Do not deprive one another—except when you agree for a time, to devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again; otherwise, Satan may tempt you because of your lack of self-control.



STOKING THE MARITAL FIRE

1. Intentionality
2. Verbal Foreplay



1. Sexual wisdom that leads to life

SONG OF SONGS 4:1 ESV

¹ Behold, you are beautiful, my love, behold, you are beautiful!
Your eyes are doves behind your veil. Your hair is like a flock of
goats leaping down the slopes of Gilead.



1. Sexual wisdom that leads to life

SONG OF SONGS 5:1 ESV

¹ Eat, friends, drink, and be drunk with love!



2. Sexual folly that leads to death

PROVERBS 5:1-14 ESV

- ¹ My son, be attentive to my wisdom;
incline your ear to my understanding,
- ² that you may keep discretion,
and your lips may guard knowledge.
- ³ For the lips of a forbidden woman drip honey,
and her speech is smoother than oil,
- ⁴ but in the end she is bitter as wormwood,
sharp as a two-edged sword.



2. Sexual folly that leads to death

PROVERBS 5:1-14 ESV

- ⁵ Her feet go down to death;
her steps follow the path to Sheol;
⁶ she does not ponder the path of life;
her ways wander, and she does not know it.



2. Sexual folly that leads to death

PROVERBS 5:1-14 ESV

- ⁷ And now, O sons, listen to me,
and do not depart from the words of my mouth.
- ⁸ Keep your way far from her,
and do not go near the door of her house,
- ⁹ lest you give your honour to others
and your years to the merciless,



2. Sexual folly that leads to death

PROVERBS 5:1-14 ESV

¹⁰ lest strangers take their fill of your strength,
and your labours go to the house of a foreigner,
¹¹ and at the end of your life you groan,
when your flesh and body are consumed,
¹² and you say, “How I hated discipline,
and my heart despised reproof!



2. Sexual folly that leads to death

PROVERBS 5:1-14 ESV

¹³ I did not listen to the voice of my teachers
or incline my ear to my instructors.

¹⁴ I am at the brink of utter ruin
in the assembled congregation.”



2. Sexual folly that leads to death

PROVERBS 5:22-23 ESV

²² The iniquities of the wicked ensnare him,
and he is held fast in the cords of his sin.

²³ He dies for lack of discipline,
and because of his great folly he is led astray.



“The moment we claim a life of celibacy to be dehumanizing, we are implying that Jesus himself is only subhuman.”

SAM ALLBERRY



“According to the Bible, sex is not a means of self-gratification. It’s not even a means of self-expression. It is a radical, unconditional, deeply personal means of self-donation.



If you use it like that, that is you only ever give your sexuality with your whole person (in other words, as long as you understand sex needs to go in marriage), there's soaring. If you don't use it like that, you've turned it into a commodity. You've turned it into groceries."

TIM KELLER



2. Sexual folly that leads to death

PROVERBS 7:21-23 ESV

²¹ With much seductive speech she persuades him; with her smooth talk she compels him. ²² All at once he follows her, as an ox goes to the slaughter, or as a stag is caught fast ²³ till an arrow pierces its liver, as a bird rushes into a snare; he does not know that it will cost him his life.



3. Freedom from sexual sin and folly

PROVERBS 5:8 ESV

⁸ Keep your way far from her, and do not go near the door of her house,



3. Freedom from sexual sin and folly

1 CORINTHIANS 6:18-20 ESV

¹⁸ Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰ for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.



3. Freedom from sexual sin and folly

EPHESIANS 5:3 ESV

³ But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints.



“It is not falling into the water, but lying in the water that drowns. It is not falling into sin, but lying in sin, that destroys the soul.”

THOMAS BROOKS



GOSPEL-POWERED HOLINESS

1 CORINTHIANS 6:18-20 ESV

¹⁸ Flee from sexual immorality. ... You are not your own, ²⁰ for you were bought with a price.



GOSPEL-POWERED HOLINESS

EPHESIANS 5:1-3 ESV

¹ Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. ² And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. ³ But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints.



GOSPEL-POWERED HOLINESS

COLOSSIANS 3:1-5 ESV

¹ If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. ⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality.