

Sermon Guide: Wisdom for Relationships 10/05/25 (Sean Arvin)

Text: Proverbs 5-7 (5:1-23)

Big Idea: *A life rooted in wisdom guards the heart and protects our relationships from the pitfalls of temptation and sin.*

Summary of the Sermon - This sermon, drawn from Proverbs 5–7, teaches that true wisdom begins with “the fear of the Lord”—a reverent joy and awe before God that shapes every relationship in life. Solomon warns that adultery, though alluring and flattering on the surface, ultimately leads to bitterness, ruin, and death. The “forbidden woman” (or man) represents the deceptive power of temptation, and believers are urged to flee from compromising situations and guard their hearts with vigilance. Instead of pursuing folly, Proverbs calls us to delight in God’s good design for intimacy within marriage—finding joy, satisfaction, and even passion in devotion to one’s spouse—as a God-given safeguard against unfaithfulness. At the same time, the sermon stresses that God sees all things and holds every person accountable, yet also offers forgiveness, healing, and restoration through Christ for those who repent.

Discussion Questions

1. What stood out to you most from this sermon?
2. Read Proverbs 5:1–6. Why do you think Solomon describes temptation with such attractive imagery (“honey,” “smooth as oil”)? How have you seen sin look appealing at first but lead to bitterness?
3. Proverbs 5:7–14 highlights the consequences of adultery. Which consequences (loss of honor, broken relationships, shame, regret, etc.) seem most sobering to you? Why?
4. In Proverbs 5:15–20, Solomon calls us to “rejoice in the wife of your youth.” What does this passage teach us about God’s design for marriage and intimacy?
5. Proverbs 5:21 reminds us that “a man’s ways are before the eyes of the Lord.” How does knowing that God sees everything both warn us and encourage us?
6. Temptation today doesn’t just come in person but also through media, internet, and social media. What practical steps can we take to “flee” from temptation and guard our hearts?
7. If the best defense against adultery is a strong offense of healthy, God-centered relationships, what are some ways married couples can pursue joy, intimacy, and faithfulness together?
8. For those who are single, what does it look like to walk wisely in relationships and prepare for future faithfulness?
9. The sermon emphasized God’s mercy and forgiveness for those caught in sin. Why is it important for Christians to hold both truth (warning against sin) and grace (offering hope and restoration)?
10. In what areas of life do you need to seek God’s wisdom more intentionally to guard your heart and relationships?
11. How can this group encourage and pray for one another in pursuing purity, faithfulness, and wisdom in relationships?