

Dustin Daniels | River Bible Church  
**Proverbs 5 | The Fastest Way To Ruin Your Life**  
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**INTRODUCTION:**

Today, we'll talk about a subject that most of us, as the church, are a bit uncomfortable with.

It's a subject matter that we feel is way too personal to discuss in public, let alone church—especially from the pulpit—and for good reason.

However, I would be doing you a great disservice if we didn't talk about this particular subject.

Because the Scriptures not only lead unbelievers to repentance—

But it also instructs us as disciples of ~~Jesus~~ with a practical truth that will transform our lives if we apply it..

And looking at the the current moral climate of our society, we are in desperate need of practical godly wisdom regarding some uncomfortable topics.

Now the world—loves to talk about this particular subject.

In fact, they are obsessed with it.

For many, it's a physiological addiction.

For many more, it's an idol.

For others, it's a religion.

So today, we're in the book of Proverbs.

And we're going to learn The Fastest Way to Ruin Your Life.

How's that for a title?

Proverbs is one of four wisdom books in the OT—Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs.

Wisdom is an interesting subject because wisdom is not only about understanding the moral character of God, but applying His moral standards to our lives.

Understanding what we should do is one thing.

As we all know, application is quite another.

The good news is that we're all in the same boat.

We see our heroes in Scripture struggle with this application in their own lives.

King Solomon is a prime example.

He was supposed to be the wisest man that ever lived— but yet had over 1,000 wives.

Oh, the irony!

But Solomon was just like you and me—he has a bad case of being human.

So, if you haven't guessed yet—our subject matter today deals with sex, sexual sin and marriage

Let me ask you this—

Did you know that God's Word talks a lot about sex?

In fact, God has an entire book about sex in the Bible- it's called The Song of Songs.

Just as Jesus is the Lord of Lords, the King of Kings, the Groom of grooms,

He has given us the Song of *all* songs - eight chapters discussing healthy sexuality.

Now, everybody, take a deep breath because we're not doing a verse-by-verse exposition on the Song of Songs this morning.

However, We will look at something else that King Solomon penned.

And that is Proverbs Chapter 5.

Please turn in your Bibles there now.

Brothers, this message is written for you this morning.  
Sisters, don't tune out - IT'S VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU ENGAGE in this conversation

Let's see what our Heavenly Father says about sex, sexual sin and marriage from His perspective in Proverbs 5.

*\*\*Please stand for the reading and honoring of God's Word.\*\**

**SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 5**

**Proverbs 5:1**—My son, pay attention to my wisdom; listen closely to my understanding

**Proverbs 5:2**— so that you may maintain discretion and your lips safeguard knowledge.

**Proverbs 5:3**— Though the lips of the forbidden woman drip honey and her words are smoother than oil,

**Proverbs 5:4**— in the end she's as bitter as wormwood and as sharp as a double-edged sword.

**Proverbs 5:5**— Her feet go down to death;  
her steps head straight for Sheol.

**Proverbs 5:6**— She doesn't consider the path of life;  
she doesn't know that her ways are unstable.

**Proverbs 5:7**— So now sons, listen to me,  
and don't turn away from the words from my mouth.

**Proverbs 5:8**— Keep your way far from her.  
Don't go near the door of her house.

**Proverbs 5:9**— Otherwise, you will give up your vitality to others  
and your years to someone cruel;

**Proverbs 5:10**— strangers will drain your resources,  
and your hard-earned pay will end up in a foreigner's house.

**Proverbs 5:11**— At the end of your life, you will lament  
when your physical body has been consumed,

**Proverbs 5:12**— and you will say, | "How I hated discipline,  
and how my heart despised correction.

**Proverbs 5:13**— I didn't obey my teachers  
or listen closely to my instructors.

**Proverbs 5:14**— I am on the verge of complete ruin |  
before the entire community."

**Proverbs 5:15**— Drink water from your own cistern,  
water flowing from your own well.

**Proverbs 5:16**— Should your springs flow in the streets,  
streams in the public squares?

**Proverbs 5:17**— They should be for you alone  
and not for you to share with strangers. —

**Proverbs 5:18**— Let your fountain be blessed,  
and take pleasure in the wife of your youth.

**Proverbs 5:19**— A loving deer, a graceful doe—  
let her breasts always satisfy you;  
be lost in her love forever.

**Proverbs 5:20**— Why, my son, would you lose yourself  
with a forbidden woman  
or embrace a wayward woman?

**Proverbs 5:21**— For a man's ways are before the Lord's eyes,  
and he considers all his paths.

**Proverbs 5:22**— A wicked man's iniquities will trap him;  
he will become tangled in the ropes of his own sin.

**Proverbs 5:23**— He will die because there is no discipline,  
and be lost because of his great stupidity.

*These are the very words from the authoritative, inerrant, inspired, and infallible  
Word of Almighty God.*

**PRAY:**

**God—his way is perfect;**

**the word of the Lord is pure.** (Ps 18:30)

*Purity of the word  
purity of the MARRIAGE bed*

## MOVEMENT 1—Downward:

**Proverbs 5:1**—My son, pay attention to my wisdom;  
listen closely to my understanding

*Repeats himself*

**Proverbs 5:2**—My son, pay attention to my wisdom;  
listen closely to my understanding so that you may maintain discretion  
and your lips safeguard knowledge.

- Feel the tenderness?
- Father is speaking to his sons.
- What's interesting is that Solomon knows this subject matter all too well, doesn't he?
- He himself was born out of the adulterous and murderous relationship between his father, King David and a woman named Bathsheba.
- Solomon Himself has disobeyed God within the marriage covenant by having over 1,000 wives.
- He has experienced the pain of stepping outside of God's best.
- So it seems that we have a much older and wiser Solomon—who is speaking to his sons—so they don't make the same mistakes as him.
- Listen carefully. This is really, really important.
- Your translation may say, *Incline your ear*— I want you to turn or bend your ear towards me.
- I want you to guard and preserve what I'm about to tell you... with your life.
- Because what I'm about to say to you will save you lots of headaches and heartbreaks—but it will also transform your life!

Wow, that's quite the disclaimer. This must be important.

**Proverbs 5:3-4**— Though the lips of the forbidden woman drip honey and her words are smoother than oil, in the end she's as bitter as wormwood and as sharp as a double-edged sword.

- The forbidden woman is a stranger. It's someone you don't know.
  - For many of us today, the 'forbidden woman' is pornography.
  - she's beautiful, enticing, seductive -
  - she's completely forbidden— she's off limits—but that's the exact reason why you're attracted to her.
  - She tells you all the things that you want to hear.
  - She's so sweet.
  - Things that make you feel respected as a man. Things that you're not hearing from anyone else.
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- But...there's a price to pay.
  - God uses sexual sin as an analogy for punishment.
  - Wormwood: Strong, bitter-tasting plant that symbolized sorrow.
  - In addition to sorrow, there is also pain involved—notice here—not just a single-edged sword...oh no, a double-edged sword—sexual sin will cut from every angle.
  - She's dangerous, and you have no idea how quickly this woman will ruin your life.
  - This prostitute - this pornography - this flirting at the office - in the end... has grave consequences.

Solomon provides those <sup>consequences</sup> consequent next.

**Proverbs 5:5**— Her feet go down to death; her steps head straight for Sheol.

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- Death and hell—those are some consequences.
  - Sheol is hell.

- Scripture describes hell as a wasteland, ~~this is a lie~~, an underworld where the dead dwell—they don't live but only exist.
- Hell a place of utter silence and gnashing of teeth.
- It is described as the Land of Forgetfulness.
- Hell is a place where all there is, is you—and the mighty power of God's justice for eternity.

**Proverbs 5:6**—*She doesn't consider the path of life; she doesn't know that her ways are unstable.*

- She doesn't examine or observe the realities of life.
- She has no destination in mind. She wanders, she staggers, she's unsteady.

#### MOVEMENT TWO: Upward

**Proverbs 5:7-8**—*So now, sons, listen to me, and don't turn away from the words from my mouth. Keep your way far from her. Don't go near the door of her house.*

- Distance yourself from her.
- Run! Remove yourself from the temptation.
- FLEE! Why? Because you don't have the will power or self-control to say "no."
- In other words, Don't pray or try to think of a Scripture verse...just run and don't look back.
- Don't kid yourself here. You do not have the moral or spiritual muscle to flirt with this beautiful stranger.

#### DOWNWARD MOVEMENT 2:

**Proverbs 5:9-10**—*Otherwise, you will give up your vitality to others and your years to someone cruel; strangers will drain your resources, and your hard-earned pay will end up in a foreigner's house.*



- If you sleep with this stranger—if you keep looking at porn-- you will lose reputation and your career.
- All those early mornings and late nights. All your hopes, dreams, and plans.
- All the pain, hurt, and toil.
- All the blood, sweat, and tears are now going to a foreigner.
- Someone who doesn't belong in your house, let alone your bed or on your computer.

**Proverbs 5:11-14**—At the end of your life, you will lament when your physical body has been consumed, and you will say, "How I hated discipline, and how my heart despised correction. I didn't obey my teachers or listen closely to my instructors. I am on the verge of complete ruin before the entire community."

- You lived your whole life for what?—temporary sexual pleasure?
- Lament/groan - growling in pain.
- Your body has been consumed physically, emotionally, and spiritually.
- Whether it's a physical disease like a sexually transmitted disease or AIDS.
- Or whether it's a moral disease like divorce.
- your life has been completely annihilated and devoured by sexual sin. Why?
- Unwilling to be disciplined.
- Discipline is instruction on how something is done.
- Discipline is training to build spiritual muscle.
- However, you were above discipline. These rules didn't apply to you—you were unteachable
- Your private life now has public consequences.
- You have been wearing a mask, living a facade, and now all your so-called friends at Church who didn't know you at all finally do get to see the real you, whether you like it or not.

## UPWARD MOVEMENT TWO

Now, that's option 1—that's the wide road.

However, Solomon gives us another option—the narrow road.

**Proverbs 5:15**—Drink water from your own cistern,  
water flowing from your own well.

- A preventive solution to this sexual temptation... is very simple.
- It's called marriage—the first God-given institution.
- Before any laws were penned.
- Before any nations formed. — *There was marriage*
- God created marriage between one man and one woman. — *and that is where sexual intimacy thrives.*

**Proverbs 5:16-17**—Should your springs flow in the streets,  
streams in the public squares? They should be for you alone  
and not for you to share with strangers.

- Solomon poses a question...
- In today's vernacular - Why are you watching pornography?
- Why are you flirting with the waitress?
- What are you doing on match.com?
- P.O. Box
- secret email addresses
- Secret computer, phone, or tablet?

**Proverbs 5:18-19**—Let your fountain be blessed,  
and take pleasure in the wife of your youth. A loving deer, a graceful doe  
—let her breasts always satisfy you; be lost in her love forever.

- Blessed - Marriage is a form of divine favor from Almighty God.
- God wants you to enjoy these intimate moments with your wife.

**Proverbs 5:20-21**—Why, my son, would you lose yourself with a forbidden woman or embrace a wayward woman? For a man's ways are before the Lord's eyes, and he considers all his paths.

- God knows exactly what we're thinking.
- He knows our motives.
- He knows our desires and the choices we'll make according to those desires.
- The Lord examines the choices we make.
- It's a really good idea that we examine our own heart, motives, and choices before making them.

**Proverbs 5:22**—A wicked man's iniquities will trap him; he will become tangled in the ropes of his own sin.

- This wicked man is anyone who doesn't listen to this advice.
- ~~The feelings of guilt caused by sin will overthrow, catch and control this person without permission.~~
- You are no longer in control. *of your life*
- Tangled/Held fast - you are being restrained against your will.

Finally,

**Proverbs 5:23**—He will die because there is no discipline, and be lost because of his great stupidity.

- Make a note; sexual sin makes you stupid!
- It may get you killed.
- And if you don't die, you'll live life being lost.
- ~~Lack of self control, lack of friends, and lack of community.~~
- Those are the very real consequences of ~~not being disciplined in this area of sexual sin.~~ *UNdisciplined.*

**PREACH:**

To my shame, My Brothers and Sisters, I lived through Proverbs 5.

And it's only by the grace of God that I stand in front of you today to teach this message.

I was this man that nearly died because of lack of discipline.

Why do I share this with you? To impress you with my stupidity?

Nope, I'm ashamed of who I used to be.

I share this message with you for several reasons.

First, I pray that you would have this exact conversation with your sons and grandsons.

Second, I share this message with you because many of you are where I used to be.

Many of you have a secret life filled with an insatiable appetite for pornography.

Porn is the 'forbidden woman' that Solomon is warning you about.

Others of you are having an emotional affair with someone at work, testing her, flirting with her to see if she's interested in something more.

Why? Because the sin of pornography has dulled your sexual desires.

It's time to taste the honey that drips from the adulteress' lips—that's simply the natural progression of the spiral of sexual sin.

Others of you are committing adultery right now.

Some of you are scared—and some of you are too proud and arrogant to be scared.

Others of you have same-sex attraction— and have no idea what to do with that.

Others of you are thinking about leaving your families for the gay relationship that you're entangled with right now.

Still, others of you think you can be a practicing homosexual and Christian at the same time.

Here's the thing—no matter where you are...

*Please know this —*  
Sexual sin is a relational sin.

And the first relationship we all need to consider is our relationship with Jesus.

GK Chesterton said, "*The man who knocks on the door of the brothel is looking for God.*"

And believe it or not, God will use that brothel, the pornography, the affair, and the homosexual tendencies—whatever sexual sin ~~we're~~ *you're* engaging in—to reveal Himself to you.

The question is whether or not we'll run into His arms—or stay within the arms of the adulteress.

Proverbs 5 describes in great detail *The Fastest Way to Ruin Your Life*—and yet simultaneously promotes sexual purity within marriage.

It's been said that sex is like a raging fire that will burn your house down.

And that is very true.

But *what if the raging fire is happening within a fireplace, called marriage?*

That fire is safe, pure, and Godly.

**KEYPOINT:**

God has created marriage so that sex, sexuality and gender will glorify and honor Him.

*It's the world that has made sex dirty.*

I want you to know that no matter where you are today—God's grace is bigger than your sexual sin.

Now many of you may be thinking—"Yeah, I know that, but I messed my marriage up pretty good."

God can and will redeem your sexual sin. *-if you allow Him.*

There is no sexual thought or act that is outside of His grace.

No matter what you've done—Romans 8:28 is still in God's Word. *-not some/few/couple things*

**Romans 8:28**—We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

If you're in the middle of Proverbs 5 today, there is one thing you need to do—stop.

The Bible calls this repentance.

If you don't know how to do that, please see me this morning, and I'll walk through this process with you.

**PRAY:**

- Thank you for hard conversations.
- GRACE
- MARRIAGE

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**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:**