

I. See the Reality - Prov. 5:3-6

1. The lips of the adulterous woman (**verse 3**)
 - to lure him away from his wife/ family
 - like honey (sweet)
 - like oil (smooth)
- Rea 2. Just to adultery or is prostitution implied?
3. The end is a warning about the beginning (**verse 4**)
 - instead of sweet the end would be bad
 - like "gall" -bitter
 - like a "sword" - cutting
4. A final end - death (**verse 5**) - the grave
- Rea -literal or figurative death?
5. She doesn't think about where she is going (**verse 6**)
 - wander vs walk
- Rea -so, is she so dense she doesn't get it? - even the woman is fooled, has already been enticed herself
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
 1. You know things that your young son does not know - you've lived long enough to witness the ruin of others - or perhaps you, yourself, have experienced such ruin
 2. This type of sin would be especially tempting to a young man
 3. Do you feel the need to warn your kids?
 - will they listen?
 4. As a pastor I've often felt it my "job" to "help" or warn young pastors - but have also found that many do not want to be "helped"
 - what do you think?

II. Think Long Term - Prov. 5:7-11

1. Listen to me (**verse 7**)
 - don't turn aside
- Rea -don't lose focus of what I say - get diverted
2. Stay far away from her (**verse 8**)
 - to walk a pathway that is close is flirting with danger
- Rea -any number of believers have turned away from the world, but they want to live right near the "edge" of what is wrong. I'm calling that "edgism" - walking right up next to the edge of a cliff of wrongdoing
3. Keep your distance
 - I once knew an alcoholic that went the "long way" home each day, just so he wouldn't pass the liquor store - I think that to be a wise alcoholic
- Rea -frequenting the bars to be a "witness" has great danger
4. Lest you lose your honor (**verse 9**)
 - there is great "honor" and "dignity" to the Christian way
 - the enemies area "cruel"
- Rea
5. The way of this woman is a way that leads to "strangers" feasting on your wealth and toil (**verse 10**)

Rea -the pain of working hard just to have strangers get your harvest/ wealth
Rea -when the prodigal son left home he had wealth - but it soon disappeared
Rea -your couch will be in their living room - their “house”

6. At the end (**verse 11**)

-you will groan
-your life will be spent - flesh and body used up
Rea -the failure to see the “end” is common with young people - it is a particular temptation for the young - especially

Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

1. Young people are sometimes short-sighted
-thinking long term is hard for all of us. It’s called “deferred gratification.”
2. What is called “honor” here might be also termed “self-esteem”
-when we sin we don’t like ourselves. We don’t want to look at ourselves in the mirror. We are disappointed mostly with our own failure.
3. Alcohol is just like this - it begins by being close, and ends in disaster
-hanging out with the drinkers leads to drinking, then to an accident that you

knew

would never happen, then your leg will never work like it used to... or worse you hurt someone else... for their life.

III. Enjoy God’s Provision - Prov. 5:15-18

1. Water from your own cistern (**verse 15**)
-sexual intimacy with your own spouse
-health depends on water... intimacy at home is a strong support to marriage

Rea -the grass always looks greener?

2. The same analogy follows in **verse 16**

-your water in the streets?
Rea -be public vs private?
-rhetorical question - goes against moral logic
3. Adultery is clearly wrong from scriptures - Ex. 20:14; Jer. 13:27
-our relationship should be marked by faithfulness
-never “shared” (**verse 17**)
4. “Alone” and “shared”
-“strangers” are other partners
Rea -we use the word “sanctity” of marriage to mean it is not shared, it is reserved or holy
Rea -can you be an adulterer without being sexually involved?

5. May your marriage be a blessing (**verse 18**)

-your “fountain” be blessed
Rea -continues with the analogy of water or springs
-rejoice with your youth/wife

Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

1. If you dare talk about sexual blessings for marriage
2. Why do people “go crazy” and begin to follow another woman?
3. There are things that are made just for marriage... and just for your own spouse
4. The old analogy is that sex is like fire

-in the fireplace it is wonderful
-when it gets outside the fireplace it is destructive

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