

## Avoid Adultery and Be Faithful In Marriage

### Proverbs 5

Group <sup>1</sup>	C	V	Description
Pitfalls of Immorality	5	1-6	Beware of anyone who would entice you to commit adultery
		7-14	Adultery will only lead to destruction and humiliation
		15-23	Remain faithful to your wife; God sees everything!

### Reflections

In this chapter, the instructions given focus on adultery and its consequences. It also encourages faithfulness in marriage and outlines the results of infidelity if the instructions are not heeded.

### Questions

1. Why does this father ask his son to pay attention to his instructions? V1-2
2. What is the first thing he warns his son to pay attention to? V3-6
3. What advice does the father then give the son? V7-8
4. What does he say will happen if his son doesn't listen to what the father is trying to teach his son? V9-11
5. What will his son's thoughts be in the end if he gives into the temptations? V11-14
6. What final instructions does this father give to his son regarding his wife? V15-20
7. What final warning does the father give to his son regarding his actions? V21-23

### Conclusion

First, this is written from a father to a son, but this is just as true for women as well. There are plenty of unscrupulous men who would seek to entice a wife away from her husband in order to fulfill their own sexual desires. So this chapter of Proverbs applies to husbands and wives and its instructions should be heeded by each.

It is not uncommon in this day and age to see people encouraged to pursue the allure of infidelity in marriage by looking outside of the marriage relationship of sexual fulfillment. It can be seen and heard in movies, television shows, songs, and all kinds of online media. It can be read about in books, magazines, newspapers, and on websites. Adultery, immorality, and the enticement to sexual sin is seemingly everywhere.

That is not how God designed us or intended us to live. By giving into the temptations of sexual desires, we expose ourselves to all manner of troubles—physical health, material possessions, disgrace before others (although not as much today as in the past), spiritual separation from God without repentance, etc.

So the conclusion is this: it is better to avoid all manner of sexual immorality in the first place and seek mutual fulfillment with your spouse, or future spouse if you're not currently married. Additionally, make a plan to avoid the things that could be a temptation for adultery or sexual immorality. Alan Lakein has said this: "Failing to plan is planning to fail."<sup>2</sup>

1 (NASB) "Group" column from the headings in the NASB text.

2 (Lakein, "Failing to Plan"; "Alan Lakein"; Lakein, *How to Get Control of Your Time and Your Life*)

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### *There and Then: Here and Now*

Answer the questions below as you reflect on your own life and this part of our study<sup>3</sup>: *my LOG vs others SPECK*. Here are some possible responses I've identified from the text that might apply to anyone.

S - Are there *sins* for me to avoid or confess?

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P - Are there *promises* from God for me to claim?

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E - Are there *examples* for me to follow or avoid?

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C - Are there *commands* for me to obey?

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K - How has this passage increased my *knowledge* about God / Jesus / Holy Spirit?

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<sup>3</sup> *Navigator Bible Study Handbook* (The Navigators), with additions & Matthew 7:1-5.

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### Response to Questions

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1. So that he can observe discretion and his lips would reserve knowledge. In the NLT, it is so that he would show discernment and his lips would express what he had learned. The father is trying to pass on what he had learned so that his son would live wisely as well.
  2. Someone who would seduce him into adultery. It will sound appealing but giving into to her will only bring ruin.
  3. Don't go near an adulteress or go near the door of her house. In essence, avoid her as much as possible, even changing the streets you travel on to avoid going near her home.
  4. If you give into the adultery of any kind, your strength—your health, your wealth, even your immortal soul—will be taken from him.
  5. “Why didn't I listen to the instructions that I was given. Now I must face my church and community in disgrace.”
  6. Be faithful to your wife and enjoy the blessing that you can share with each other, between husband and wife, as God intended, rather than seeking pleasure from a stranger and adulteress.
  7. God knows and sees everything we do and our sins will not go unpunished. It is our sins that bring destruction unless we heed these instructions.
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**Key Words:** Old Testament, Wisdom/Poetry, Proverbs, Adultery, Marriage, Fidelity, God: Omniscience, Sin

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