



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LAKE ORION

## **THE HONEY OF INTIMACY: A FATHER'S "SEX-TALK"**

Sunday, January 21, 2018

**TEXT:** PROVERBS 5:1-4; 15-18; 20-23

*Proverbs 5:1 My son, give attention to my wisdom, Incline your ear to my understanding; 2 That you may observe discretion And your lips may reserve knowledge. 3 For the lips of an adulteress drip honey And smoother than oil is her speech; 4 But in the end she is bitter as wormwood, Sharp as a two-edged sword.*

*15 Drink water from your own cistern And fresh water from your own well. 16 Should your springs be dispersed abroad, Streams of water in the streets? 17 Let them be yours alone And not for strangers with you. 18 Let your fountain be blessed, And rejoice in the wife of your youth.*

*20 For why should you, my son, be exhilarated with an adulteress And embrace the bosom of a foreigner? 21 For the ways of a man are before the eyes of the LORD, And He watches all his paths. 22 His own iniquities will capture the wicked, And he will be held with the cords of his sin. 23 He will die for lack of instruction, And in the greatness of his folly he will go astray.*

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

### **A. A Review**

Proverbs is a study about *godly wisdom, how to get it and how to use it*. Proverbs is not so much a study on *how to make a living*, but rather, ***how to make a life***.

*Lady Wisdom* in Proverbs is a personification of God's Wisdom as seen in Solomon's teachings. By embracing Solomon's teaching, one is embracing Lady Wisdom and God Himself.

**TRANSITION:** In Proverbs 5, 6 and 7 the father is addressing a topic that we have a tendency to avoid— ***the topic of sex***. The great benefit in expository preaching and teaching through a book of the Bible is that the Bible itself raises topics we might otherwise avoid or have difficulty bringing up. Such is the topic of the *physical and intimate relationship between a man and a woman in the context of marriage*.

### **B. The Nature of the Discussion: Why Address the Topic?**

#### **1. We address the topic because it is in the Bible.**

*Christians have no right to be embarrassed when it come to talking about sex and sexuality. An unhealthy reticence or embarrassment in dealing with these issues is a form of disrespect to God's creation. Whatever God made is good, and every good thing God made has an intended purpose that ultimately reveals His own glory. When conservative Christians respond to sex with ambivalence or embarrassment, we slander the goodness of God and hide God's glory which is intended to be revealed in the right use of creations' gift. [Albert Mohler "The Seduction of Pornography and the Integrity of Christian Marriage"]*

**2. We address the topic because it was part of God's original design for Adam and Eve before the fall, Gen. 1:27-18.**

The intimate relationship God designed and Jesus endorsed is to be embraced only in the context of marriage. In this context, this relationship is beautiful.

**TRANSITION:** In chapter 5, Solomon is instructing the son on a matter that all godly fathers must eventually instruct their sons with sobriety, clarity, boldness and confidence—he is giving him instruction on the topic of sex.

**II. THE TALK, vv. 1-6**

**A. Beware of Sexual Foolishness and Sensual Voices, vv. 3–6**

**1. Sexual foolishness comes across as “sweet honey”, v. 3.**

The adulteress uses her looks and lips to entice and entrap. On the surface, the words of the adulteress are delightful and appealing—honey-coated. She promises pleasure but in the end there are only bitter consequences.

**2. Sexual foolishness leads to bitter consequences, v. 4.**

There is a contrast between *sweet honey* and *bitter wormwood*. While sexual foolishness and the sensual voices promise pleasure, in reality, they leave bitter, cutting and deadly consequences.

**3. Sexual foolishness results in spiritual deadness, vv. 5–6.**

“*Feet*” speak of direction. “*Death*” and “*sheol*” are synonymous expressions for eternal judgment. The constant commitment to sexual foolishness leads in the direction of death and judgment.

**III. THE ADVICE, vv. 7–19**

**A. Keep Sexually Away from Any Woman That Is Not Your Wife, vv. 7–14.**

**1. Involvement in sexual foolishness can cost one his possessions, v. 10.**

**2. Involvement in sexual foolishness can cost one his health, v. 11.**

**3. Involvement in sexual foolishness leads to regrets, vv. 12-14.**

**B. Keep Sexually Attached to Your Wife Alone, vv. 15-19.**

**1. The images in the verse: “cistern” and “well,” v. 15**

The image of “cistern” and “well” are used of a wife. The point here is that a wife, like water, satisfies desire.

**2. The meaning of the images**

Intimacy with your spouse is like a private drinking well that satisfies. Any intimate relationship outside the bounds of marriage is taking something that is to be private into the public street. Notice verse 16: *Should your springs be dispersed abroad, Streams of water in the streets?* God designed sex to be enjoyed within the confines and boundary of your God-ordained relationship, vv. 18–19.

**IV. THE DECISION, vv. 20– 23**

**A. Decide Wisely Because Sexual Foolishness Is Never in Secret, v. 21a.**

**B. Decide Wisely Because God Examines all Paths, v. 21b.**

**C. Decide Wisely Because Sin Ensnares, v. 22.**

**D. Decide Wisely Because a Morally Undisciplined Life Will Result in Death, v. 23**

**CONCLUSION:** Sex is like fire. In the fireplace it keeps us warm. Outside the fireplace it burns the house down. Proverbs 5 is saying, “Keep the fire in the marital fireplace, and stoke that fire as hot as you can.”