



KING'S CHAPEL

Daily Devotional - Proverbs Study

Week 3 - Day 3

Approaching God

Psalm 119:9-12 - *How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word. I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. Praise be to you, LORD; teach me your decrees.*

Prayer: A life of purity begins with God's word. Take a moment as we look at sexual purity today to consider the promises of God in Psalm 119. How can you take these words and make them your own prayer today? Take some time to do that now.

Bible Reading, Study & Meditation - Proverbs 6:20-35

Passage Introduction: A Father's appeal #9 - Avoid Adultery

In likening sexual infidelity to fire [in one's] lap, we return to the familiar theme of God's created order. Limiting sex to marriage is analogous to limiting ourselves through diet and exercise, which leads to the freedom of health. Honoring God's design leads to liberation. "Self-limitation . . . and deliberate acceptance of inter-personal and cosmic limits are basic to biblical wisdom. When humans practice self-discipline in relation to . . . sex, food, sleep, exercise, work, play, speech it promotes self-knowledge, self-mastery, and paradoxically, freedom." Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, "None learns the secret of freedom save only by way of control."

Proverbs 6:20—35 - NIV

20 My son, keep your father's command and do not forsake your mother's teaching. **21** Bind them always on your heart; fasten them around your neck. **22** When you walk, they will guide you; when you sleep, they will watch over you; when you awake, they will speak to you. **23** For this command is a lamp, this teaching is a light, and correction and instruction are the way to life, **24** keeping you from your neighbor's wife, from the smooth talk of a wayward woman. **25** Do not lust in your heart after her beauty or let her captivate you with her eyes. **26** For a prostitute can be had for a loaf of bread, but another man's wife preys on your very life. **27** Can a man scoop fire into his lap without his clothes being burned? **28** Can a man walk on hot coals without his feet being scorched? **29** So is he who sleeps with another man's wife; no one who touches her will go unpunished. **30** People do not despise a thief if he steals to satisfy his hunger when he is starving. **31** Yet if he is caught, he must pay sevenfold, though it costs him all the wealth of his house. **32** But a man who commits adultery has no sense; whoever does so destroys himself. **33** Blows and disgrace are his lot, and his shame will never be wiped away. **34** For jealousy

arouses a husband's fury, and he will show no mercy when he takes revenge. **35** He will not accept any compensation; he will refuse a bribe, however great it is.

Daily Study Questions

How do we accept the freedom of God-ordained limits? The one way is to remember the benefits to us. So we pray: "O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom . . ." But in the end we are best motivated by looking at our Savior limiting himself for us. "Our God contracted to a span— incomprehensibly made man."

Derek Kidner- Proverbs

- Think of all the ways you accept the loss of smaller freedoms in order to get greater ones. List some of those that come to mind here.

- What 1 or 2 principles do you observe in this section?

- When in your life or the life of someone else have you seen this observation illustrated?

- How can you put this observation or principle into practice?

Close in Prayer:

Lord Jesus, indeed you not only limited yourself for me but you enslaved yourself, "taking the very nature of a servant" (Philippians 2:7). How, then, can I view your commands to me about sex, money, and power as burdensome? Keep me from ever resenting your wonderful precepts. Amen.