



KING'S CHAPEL

Daily Devotional - Proverbs Study

Week 3 - Day 1

Approaching God

Psalm 5:1-3 - *Listen, God! Please, pay attention! Can you make sense of these ramblings, my groans and cries? King-God, I need your help. Every morning you'll hear me at it again. Every morning I lay out the pieces of my life on your altar and watch for fire to descend.*

Prayer: Take a minute to quiet your heart and become aware of the Lord's presence. Read through Psalm 5:1-3 again (from Eugene Peterson's - *The Message Bible*) David's awareness that God calls us, and hears from us just as we are brings him great encouragement. Pray your heart.

Bible Reading, Study & Meditation - Proverbs 5:1-23

Passage Introduction: A Father's Appeal #8 - Wisdom about Sexuality

This passage forbids adultery but also celebrates sex within marriage. The world thinks the bible's view of sexuality is outdated and restrictive. But there is barefaced rejoicing in sexual pleasure here in Proverbs, using vivid images. Female sexuality is likened to a well into which there is descent; male sexuality is called a fountain. The husband is to be attracted to his wife's breasts. To drink water is to quench sexual thirst through lovemaking. Verse 18 actually asks for divine blessing on sex. While the passage shows a reverence for sex, there is not a hint of prudishness. The New Testament agrees sex **within marriage** is crucial and not optional (1 Corinthians 7:2,5).

Proverbs 5:1-23 - NIV

1 My son, pay attention to my wisdom, turn your ear to my words of insight, **2** that you may maintain discretion and your lips may preserve knowledge. **3** For the lips of the adulterous woman drip honey, and her speech is smoother than oil; **4** but in the end she is bitter as gall, sharp as a double-edged sword. **5** Her feet go down to death; her steps lead straight to the grave. **6** She gives no thought to the way of life; her paths wander aimlessly, but she does not know it. **7** Now then, my sons, listen to me; do not turn aside from what I say. **8** Keep to a path far from her, do not go near the door of her house, **9** lest you lose your honor to others and your dignity to one who is cruel, **10** lest strangers feast on your wealth and your toil enrich the house of another. **11** At the end of your life you will groan, when your flesh and body are spent. **12** You will say, "How I hated discipline! How my heart spurned correction! **13** I would not obey my teachers or turn my ear to my instructors. **14** And I was soon in serious trouble in the assembly of God's people." **15** Drink water from your own cistern, running water from your own well. **16** Should your springs overflow in the streets, your streams of water in the public squares? **17** Let them

be yours alone, never to be shared with strangers. **18** May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth. **19** A loving doe, a graceful deer— may her breasts satisfy you always, may you ever be intoxicated with her love. **20** Why, my son, be intoxicated with another man's wife? Why embrace the bosom of a wayward woman? **21** For your ways are in full view of the LORD, and he examines all your paths. **22** The evil deeds of the wicked ensnare them; the cords of their sins hold them fast. **23** For lack of discipline they will die, led astray by their own great folly

Daily Study Questions

In that day it was expected that the husband would find supplemental sexual pleasure elsewhere, but the Bible allows no double standard. Should your springs overflow in the streets? Rather, the wife's sexuality belongs to her husband (your own well) even as the husband's to the wife (1 Corinthians 7:4–5)—an expression of equal sexual authority within marriage that, especially for its time, was striking. Within that bond, sex can truly flow and sing.

- 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?
- Are the people in the churches you know, or the Christians that run in your circles, too prudish about sex? On the other hand, do they lack a reverence for sex, not seeing it as for marriage alone?

Close in Prayer:

Lord, your Word's teaching on both the sexuality's meaning and practice was a bombshell in the ancient world and is again today. It infuriates and confounds both the prudish and the licentious. Give your people the wisdom to see and love your wisdom about your creation, the gift of sex. Amen.