

WEEK 4: MARRIAGE

QUESTION ONE

Read Proverbs 5:1-2. The author calls us to listen to wisdom and to protect it in our minds and hearts. As we have been in the proverbs for the last month, what are some things that you have learned about wisdom that are changing you and staying with you?

QUESTION TWO

Read Proverbs 5:3-14. Note that it says "forbidden woman"--this is not a sexist caricature of women. We need to remember that the book is framed as instruction from a father to his son. What are some of the things this passage teaches us about sexual temptations?

Follow Up: Have you ever seen this play out in your own life or in the lives of people close to you?

Follow Up: What seems to be the author's tone in verses 1-14?

QUESTION THREE

Read Proverbs 5:15-19. What do you notice about the tone in verses 15-19? What does that communicate? What does the author call us to in these verses? What does "nakedness without shame" (vs. 19) remind you of?

Follow Up: How is sex depicted in this passage? How does that contrast the depiction in the previous verses?

QUESTION FOUR

Read Proverbs 5:20-23. How does the tone shift this time? What does that communicate? What does the author mean when he says "For a man's ways are before the eyes of the LORD"?

QUESTION FIVE

Read Proverbs 1:7. What should accountability to God lead us to feel? What should it lead us to do?

CLOSING: Spend some time praying that God would grow us in wisdom, empowering us with His Spirit to be faithful to Him and, for those who are married, faithful to their spouses. Pray that God would strengthen the marriages in our church.