

## Valentine's Day > Proverbs 5:1-23

**5:1-6** The Path to the Dead: for both the son's marriage and his faith, going to the house of the adulteress will lead to nothing good: bitterness, not the sweetness promised; death, not joy-giving life.

**5:7-14** The Road to Ruin: adultery leads to lasting regret. The picture here illustrates the reality of the lifelong consequences that result. Instead, the father calls on his son to do the most practical thing possible: he is to guard himself from this disaster by keeping far from temptation.

**5:15-23** Which way shall be yours? The son must choose – and so must we: will we seek after faithfulness? Or death? The choice might seem obvious, but what do your words, thoughts, and actions reveal about your direction?

**Context:** This pattern of the father seeking to teach the son about real-life wisdom continues now in the marriage relationship: God's wisdom applies here just as much as anywhere else.

**Aim:** To show how adultery leads to loss of joy, the destruction of marriage, and lifelong regret. Embracing wisdom means embracing faithfulness. The result is life: not only in a relationship here, but also spiritually.

**Gospel:** What is in view isn't only physical adultery, but also what these sinful actions say about our own hearts and our relationship with God. We need forgiveness in Christ.

**Applications:** Our marriages are meant to depict a snapshot of Christ's love for the church. Do they? Will they?

**Here is how I will apply these truths:** \_\_\_\_\_

---