

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, January 3, 2016

Passage: Proverbs 5:1-23

Memory Passage: Proverbs 5:1-2

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Prov. 1:1-7.** Write definitions for “wisdom,” “instruction,” “understand,” “wise dealing,” “righteousness,” “justice,” “equity,” “prudence,” & “discretion.” These words from 1:1-4 are crucial to understanding the teaching of Proverbs.

(b) Summarize in one sentence Solomon’s goals for the book of Proverbs according to 1:1-4.

(c) Explain the commands found in vs. 5-6, and their connection to vs. 1-4 (be sure to discuss the connection between wisdom and knowledge).

(d) According to 1:7, what is the primary mark of those who will obey the wisdom found in Proverbs and those who will not?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Prov. 1:7 & 5:1-6.** What commands are given to the son in v. 1, and what benefits are gained by obeying (v. 2)?

(b) Proverbs uses many word pictures to convey truth, and many concrete examples of situations that have multiple applications. Who is the “forbidden woman” of v. 3 and what makes her such a temptation?

(c) Contrary to the pleasures she claims to offer, what is the reality behind this woman? Explain each phrase in vs. 4-6.

(d) The implication of v. 6a is that a person *should be* pondering the path of life. How does one ponder the path of life, and how does following after this woman impede this?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Prov. 5:7-14.** For the 3rd time in chapter 5 we are told to “listen” (cf. 2x in v. 1). What does it mean to listen to wisdom? According to v. 7, is true listening more than “hearing,” and if so, what does it entail?

(b) What does the severity of the command in v. 8 tell you about the danger of the woman’s trap (e.g., not just “stay away,” but “keep your way *far* from” her and rather than “don’t go into her house” he must “not go near the door of her house”)?

(c) Explain all of the consequences (found in vs. 9-14) of disobeying v. 8.

(d) How do the three sayings uttered by the disobedient one at the end of life (vs. 12-14) reflect the truth of 1:1-7 & 5:1-2?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Prov. 5:15-23.** Explain what the father tells his son do do *instead* of pursuing the forbidden woman (vs. 15-19).
- (b) What does pursuing one's own wife or husband provide that pursuing a forbidden woman or man does not?
- (c) What is the implied answer to the question posed in v. 20?
- (d) What 3 reasons (vs. 21-23) are given for fleeing the enticements of the forbidden woman?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Prov. 5:1-23.** Develop 10 questions or statements from each of the following verses that you can use as you fight the temptation to sin: 1, 3, 4, 5-6, 8, 9-14,15-19, 21, 22, & 23. My example from vs. 9-14: What does the future hold for me if I try to find joy and satisfaction in this sin rather than Christ or the path that leads to life?
- (b) The immediate application for Proverbs 5 is in our fight against sexual sin. Choose 3 of your statements or questions from (a) that will help you fight the temptation to sin sexually (intaking pornography, flirting, an affair, lust, fantasies, etc.) and write down how you will apply them the next time you are tempted.
- (c) Name the sin, other than sexual sin, with which you are most often tempted. Choose 3 of your statements or questions from (a) that will help you fight this specific temptation and write down how you will apply it the next time you are tempted.

DATE: January 3, 2016**PASSAGE: Proverbs 5:1-23***Wisdom for Times of Temptation*