

“Avoid The Trap”
(Proverbs 6:12-35)

~ LET’S PRAY ~

TONIGHT...

- We continue our discovery...
 - On how the wisdom of God is intensely practical.

(Chp. #5)

- Gave instructions about sexual immorality.

(Chp. #6)

- We learned two powerful warnings:

#1) **Financial commitments**

#2) **Laziness**

This final section of (Proverbs 6:12-35)...

- Gives us two more destructive character flaws:
 - 1) The scheming person (vv. 12–19)
 - 2) The preying person (vv. 20–35)

~ STUDY ~

(Proverbs 6:12-19)

IDEA #1 – BAD STRATEGY EXPOSED

(vv.12-15) Provides external cues to recognize this type of person.

THIS PERSON...

- Is not living out an occasional stumble.
 - This person is living out a strategy for life.
- This person is morally empty and actively destructive.

(v.15) “*Without remedy*” literally means beyond repair.

(1 Tim. 4:2) NLT

“*These people are hypocrites and liars, and their consciences are dead.*”

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Wisdom Principle: Friendship requires discernment.

(Proverbs 18:24) NKJV

(Proverbs 22:24-25) NKJV

IDEA #2 – HOW TO DISCOVER A DANGEROUS PERSON

(vv.16-19) This list moves from an inner attitude to outward harm.

1. Haughty eyes – pride
2. Lying tongue – falsehood
3. Hands that shed innocent blood – violence
4. Heart that devises wicked plans – intent
5. Feet that rush to evil – eagerness
6. False witness – legal/social destruction
7. One who sows discord – community sabotage

(James 3:6) NLT

IDEA #3 – PROTECTION 101

Solomon reminds the reader of basic protection.

- *Parental instruction* is portrayed as:
 - Restraints (v.21)
 - A guide (v.22)
 - A lamp & light (v.23)

Point...

- God’s commands don’t restrict life... they preserve it.

PRACTICAL WISDOM:

- Repeated exposure to sinful-content...
 - Desensitizes the believer to evil.

IDEA #4 – THE COST OF ADULTERY

REMEMBER...

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- *Satan loves to show the bait... NOT the bill.*

FOUR POINTS OF WISDOM:

a) Adultery begins with seduction (vv. 24–25)

- Smooth words
- Physical attraction
- Internal longing (heart)

b) Adultery is self-destruction (vv. 27–29)

“Can a man carry fire next to his chest and his clothes not be burned?”

THINK DIFFERENTLY...

Adultery is not risky attraction...

- It's betrayal by crossing a God-set boundary.

CHURCH...

- Grace does NOT erase consequence...
 - But it does provide a pathway of forgiveness & restoration.

c) Adultery has no adequate compensation (vv. 30–31)

- A thief may steal out of hunger and have to repay.
 - But there's nothing that can compensate for adultery.

Why?

- Because it destroys trust, smashes emotions, & crushes the spirit.
- God hates sinful patterns...
 - Not people He created in His own image.

d) Permanent consequences (vv. 32–35)

- Lacks understanding (v.32a)
- Destroys his own soul (v.32b)
- Invites consequences that are not wiped away (v.33)
- Relentless jealousy from the offended spouse (v.34)

Truth To Remember:

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- All sin can be forgiven by God...
 - But some sins will leave a lifelong scar.

~ IN CLOSING ~

- Sin is destructive
- God’s wisdom protects and preserves life.
 - Ignoring these truths create vulnerability in the Christians’ life.

Private sin becomes public ruin

- (Num 32:23) NKJV – *“be sure your sin will find you out.”*

IF YOU’VE TIED YOUR LIFE IN A KNOT...

- Come to God and let the healing begin.
 - (1 John 1:9)