



Today's Message

Date: March 8, 2015
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas
Title: ***Listen to Those Who Love You***
Text: Proverbs 6:20–35 (ESV)

²⁰ My son, keep your father's commandment,
and forsake not your mother's teaching.
²¹ Bind them on your heart always;
tie them around your neck.
²² When you walk, they will lead you;
when you lie down, they will watch over you;
and when you awake, they will talk with you.
²³ For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light,
and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life,
²⁴ to preserve you from the evil woman,
from the smooth tongue of the adulteress.
²⁵ Do not desire her beauty in your heart,
and do not let her capture you with her eyelashes;
²⁶ for the price of a prostitute is only a loaf of bread,
but a married woman hunts down a precious life.
²⁷ Can a man carry fire next to his chest
and his clothes not be burned?
²⁸ Or can one walk on hot coals
and his feet not be scorched?
²⁹ So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife;
none who touches her will go unpunished.
³⁰ People do not despise a thief if he steals
to satisfy his appetite when he is hungry,
³¹ but if he is caught, he will pay sevenfold;
he will give all the goods of his house.
³² He who commits adultery lacks sense;
he who does it destroys himself.

- ³³ He will get wounds and dishonor,
and his disgrace will not be wiped away.
- ³⁴ For jealousy makes a man furious,
and he will not spare when he takes revenge.
- ³⁵ He will accept no compensation;
he will refuse though you multiply gifts.

Introduction: Proverbs 6 concludes with the first of two consecutive lessons on the dangers of marital infidelity. Solomon speaks very frankly to his son about temptations he will face and the consequences of giving in. But we will see that value of this lesson reaches far beyond immediate problems caused by immoral behavior. When we see Solomon's instructions in the larger story of the Bible, we learn that marital infidelity is an attack on God's established social order—a structure He intends to mirror Christ's relationship with the church.

Today's take-home truth: The wise value godly instruction that protects the institution of marriage.

I. Introduction: Listen to your parents. 20-24

- A. Take to heart their biblical teaching. 20-21
- B. It will guide you and protect you from temptation. 22-24

II. Lesson: You must learn to flee temptation because it will destroy you. 25-35

- A. Guard your heart from lust . . . 25
- B. Because sexual immorality brings tragic consequences. 26-35
 - 1. The consequences of adultery are worse than you imagine. 26-33

- a. It carries a high price. 26
 - b. No one can escape its pain. 27-29
 - c. Its shame never ends. 30-33
2. The adulterer cannot undo what he has done.
34-35

III. The big picture: Adultery carries severe consequences because marriage is important to God.

- A. God designed it to be the foundational unit of society.
- B. God designed to picture the union of Christ and the church.