

Scripture

Proverbs 5:1-23 (NLT)

Avoid Immoral Women

- 1 My son, pay attention to my wisdom;
listen carefully to my wise counsel.
- 2 Then you will show discernment,
and your lips will express what you've
learned.
- 3 For the lips of an immoral woman are as
sweet as honey,
and her mouth is smoother than oil.
- 4 But in the end she is as bitter as poison,
as dangerous as a double-edged sword.

- 5 Her feet go down to death;
her steps lead straight to the grave.
- 6 For she cares nothing about the path to life.
She staggers down a crooked trail and
doesn't realize it.
- 7 So now, my sons, listen to me.
Never stray from what I am about to say:
- 8 Stay away from her!
Don't go near the door of her house!
- 9 If you do, you will lose your honor
and will lose to merciless people all you have
achieved.
- 10 Strangers will consume your wealth,
and someone else will enjoy the fruit of your
labor.

- 11 In the end you will groan in anguish
when disease consumes your body.
- 12 You will say, “How I hated discipline!
If only I had not ignored all the
warnings!
- 13 Oh, why didn’t I listen to my teachers?
Why didn’t I pay attention to my
instructors?
- 14 I have come to the brink of utter ruin,
and now I must face public disgrace.”
- 15 Drink water from your own well—
share your love only with your wife.

- 16** Why spill the water of your springs in the streets, having sex with just anyone?
- 17** You should reserve it for yourselves.
Never share it with strangers.
- 18** Let your wife be a fountain of blessing for you. Rejoice in the wife of your youth.
- 19** She is a loving deer, a graceful doe.
Let her breasts satisfy you always.
May you always be captivated by her love.
- 20** Why be captivated, my son, by an immoral woman, or fondle the breasts of a promiscuous woman?

- 21** For the Lord sees clearly what a man does,
examining every path he takes.
- 22** An evil man is held captive by his own sins;
they are ropes that catch and hold him.
- 23** He will die for lack of self-control;
he will be lost because of his great
foolishness.