

A grayscale photograph of a person's hands clasped together over an open book. The person is wearing a long-sleeved sweater. The book is open, and the text on the pages is visible but slightly blurred. Overlaid on the image is the word 'PROVERBS' in large, bold, yellow, sans-serif capital letters. Below it, the phrase 'Wisdom for Living' is written in a white, cursive script font. At the bottom of the image, there are several horizontal, wavy, semi-transparent white lines.

PROVERBS

Wisdom for Living

A grayscale image of a person's hands clasped over an open book, positioned in the upper left corner of the slide. The background of the entire slide is a dark, textured, cracked surface.

PROVERBS

Wisdom for Living

❖ Pay attention to God's warnings

My son, **pay attention to my wisdom**, turn your ear to
my words of insight,

Now then, my sons, **listen to me; pay attention to what I say.** Do not let your heart turn to her ways or stray into her paths. Many are the victims she has brought down; her slain are a mighty throng. Her house is a highway to the grave, leading down to the chambers of death.

Proverbs 7:24–27 (NIV)

PROVERBS

Wisdom for Living

The One who created sexuality also has the right to set the boundaries for it and the Bible has made those boundaries clear.

She gives no thought to the way of life; her paths
wander aimlessly, but she does not know it.



PROVERBS

Wisdom for Living

- Pay attention to God's warnings

❖ Wrong behavior begins with wrong thoughts

Do not lust in your heart after her beauty or let her
captivate you with her eyes.

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that **anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.**

If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

Matthew 5:27–30 (NIV)

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Wisdom for Living

You can't keep a bird from flying over your head, but you can keep it from building a nest in your hair.

Control your thoughts!

... we take captive every thought to make it obedient
to Christ.

2 Corinthians 10:5 (NIV)



PROVERBS

Wisdom for Living

- Pay attention to God's warnings
- Wrong behavior begins with wrong thoughts

❖ Sin is fun... for a while

By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy **the fleeting pleasures of sin.**

Hebrews 11:24-25 (NIV)

For the lips of the adulterous woman drip honey, and
her speech is smoother than oil;

but in the end she is bitter as gall, sharp as a double-
edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps
lead straight to the grave.



PROVERBS

Wisdom for Living

- Pay attention to God's warnings
- Wrong behavior begins with wrong thoughts
- Sin is fun... for a while

❖ Visualize today what the consequences will be tomorrow

lest you lose your honor to others and your dignity to one who is cruel, lest strangers feast on your wealth and your toil enrich the house of another. At the end of your life you will groan, when your flesh and body are spent.

You will say, “How I hated discipline! How my heart spurned correction! I would not obey my teachers or turn my ear to my instructors. And I was soon in serious trouble in the assembly of God’s people.”

Why, my son, be intoxicated with another man's wife?
Why embrace the bosom of a wayward woman? For
your ways are in full view of the Lord, and he examines
all your paths. The evil deeds of the wicked ensnare
them; the cords of their sins hold them fast. For lack of
discipline they will die, led astray by their own great
folly.

Proverbs 5:20-23 (NIV)

Can a man scoop fire into his lap without his clothes being burned? Can a man walk on hot coals without his feet being scorched? So is he who sleeps with another man's wife; no one who touches her will go unpunished.

Proverbs 6:20–35 (NIV)

But a man who commits adultery (*Jesus also includes lust*)
has no sense; **whoever does so destroys himself.**



PROVERBS

Wisdom for Living

- Pay attention to God's warnings
- Wrong behavior begins with wrong thoughts
- Sin is fun... for a while
- Visualize today what the consequences will be tomorrow

❖ Learn to appreciate what you have

Drink water from your own cistern, running water from your own well. Should your springs overflow in the streets, your streams of water in the public squares? Let them be yours alone, never to be shared with strangers.

May your fountain be blessed, and **may you rejoice in the wife of your youth** A loving doe, a graceful deer—
may her breasts satisfy you always, **may you ever be intoxicated with her love.**

PROVERBS

Wisdom for Living

Marriage Prayer

“Let me always see my wife as beautiful.”

At the window of my house I looked down through the lattice. I saw among **the simple**, I noticed among the young men, **a youth who had no sense.**

He was going down the street near her corner, walking along in the direction of her house at twilight, as the day was fading, as the dark of night set in.

Now then, my sons, **listen to me**; do not turn aside
from what I say.

Keep to a path far from her, do not go near the door of
her house,

Then out came a woman to meet him, **dressed like a prostitute** and with crafty intent. (She is unruly and defiant, her feet never stay at home; now in the street, now in the squares, at every corner she lurks.)

She took hold of him and kissed him and with a brazen face she said: “Today I fulfilled my vows, and I have food from my fellowship offering at home. So I came out to meet you; I looked for you and have found you! I have covered my bed with colored linens from Egypt.

I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes and cinnamon. Come, let's drink deeply of love till morning; let's enjoy ourselves with love! My husband is not at home; he has gone on a long journey. He took his purse filled with money and will not be home till full moon."

With persuasive words she led him astray; she seduced him with her smooth talk. **All at once he followed her** like an ox going to the slaughter, like a deer stepping into a noose till an arrow pierces his liver, like a bird darting into a snare, little knowing it will cost him his life.

Now then, my sons, listen to me; pay attention to what I say. Do not let your heart turn to her ways or stray into her paths. **Many are the victims she has brought down;** her slain are a mighty throng. Her house is a highway to the grave, leading down to the chambers of death.

For she has cast down many wounded, And **all who
were slain by her were strong men.**

If you think you are standing strong, be careful not to fall. The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure.

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Wisdom for Living

- Build a strong marriage.
- Don't be naïve.
- Avoid places where you will be tempted.
- There will usually be clues.
- Plan ahead how you will respond to temptation.
- Yes. This applies to you.

For your ways are in full view of the Lord, and he
examines all your paths.

Jesus straightened up and asked her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” “No one, sir,” she said.

“Then neither do I condemn you,” Jesus declared.

“Go now and leave your life of sin.”

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will

forgive us our sins and **purify us**

from all unrighteousness.

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- Sin is fun... for a while
- Visualize today what the consequences will be tomorrow
- Learn to appreciate what you have

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