

Wisdom for living

Addressed, as it is, to a young man... Proverbs has much to say about the dangers of sexual temptation. This teaching applies more widely to all of us in any circumstances and at any stage of life as we deal with desire and temptation in general.

Start with prayer and then recap on Proverbs

What main themes have we noticed in the book of Proverbs so far? (if helpful look at **1**:7,32-33, **3**:5-6, 18, **4**:23-26, **9**:1-6, 13-18)

Read Proverbs 5:20-23

These verses come in a longer section about being tempted into adultery. How do these verses apply some of the general themes of Proverbs?

What motivations are given for not giving in to temptation?

Proverbs 7:6-27

Where does the youth 'who has no sense' first go wrong?

In what ways do we put ourselves 'in the way of temptation'?

What might the time of day (v9) suggest?

What do you notice about the woman's offer?

Why do we think 'forbidden fruit' is so appealing?

How do v22-27 describe what is really happening?

What is the lesson in this passage?

How do we need to take heed of it?

Pray in the passage