



Proverbs 6-7

wisdom guards

PREPARATION BEFORE THE GROUP MEETS:

The aim of this preparation is to encourage good & prayerful observation of the text of God's word and the joyful experience of discovering its truth.

Pray & read Proverbs 6.20-7.27

What stands out in this reading?

What puzzles you about this reading?

How does this reading make you **feel**?

What do you **think** in response to this reading?

What will you **do** in response to this reading?

When you meet together – pray for understanding and a humble heart.

Introduction – Guard – What springs to mind when you think of a guard/guarding? What things are you careful to guard in your life?

Take turns to read Proverbs **6.20** through **7.27** (note, duplication in the Bible is often for emphasis!)

1. **What** does the king exhort the son to do? (6.20, 7.1a, 7.24) **How** does the king mean for the son to do this, and what would this look like for you today? (6.21, 7.1b, 7.3-4 see also Deut 11.18-21)
2. **When** in the son's life are the commands/teaching helpful? (6.22) In **what ways** are they helpful? (6.22-24, 7.2a)
3. **Which** sin is on the king's mind? (6.24-25, 7.5)
4. Is the king's parable (7.6-23, 26-27) critical of the young man, the woman or both? **Give** your reasons! Dig deeper: If adultery is only sex, and sex is only physical, **what's the problem?** (see also Matt 19.4-6, 1 Thes 4.3-8, 1 Cor 6.12-20 and Eph 5.22-33)
5. **In your own words**, what is the king's instruction? (6.25, 7.25) Dig deeper: In 7.24 the king warns his sons against sexual sin. **Discuss** how his wisdom may more broadly apply to both males and females?
6. To defeat the deadly allure of the woman, **what** must remain the son's greatest passion? (7.2b)?
7. **How** did Jesus - God's wisest son! - **keep** his Father's commands and **guard** his teachings (Lk 4.1-14)?
8. As God's son/daughter, **what temptations** do you face? **What life changes** will you make to guard wisdom?

Pray: For each other, to keep the Father's commands and guard his teachings, through all of life!