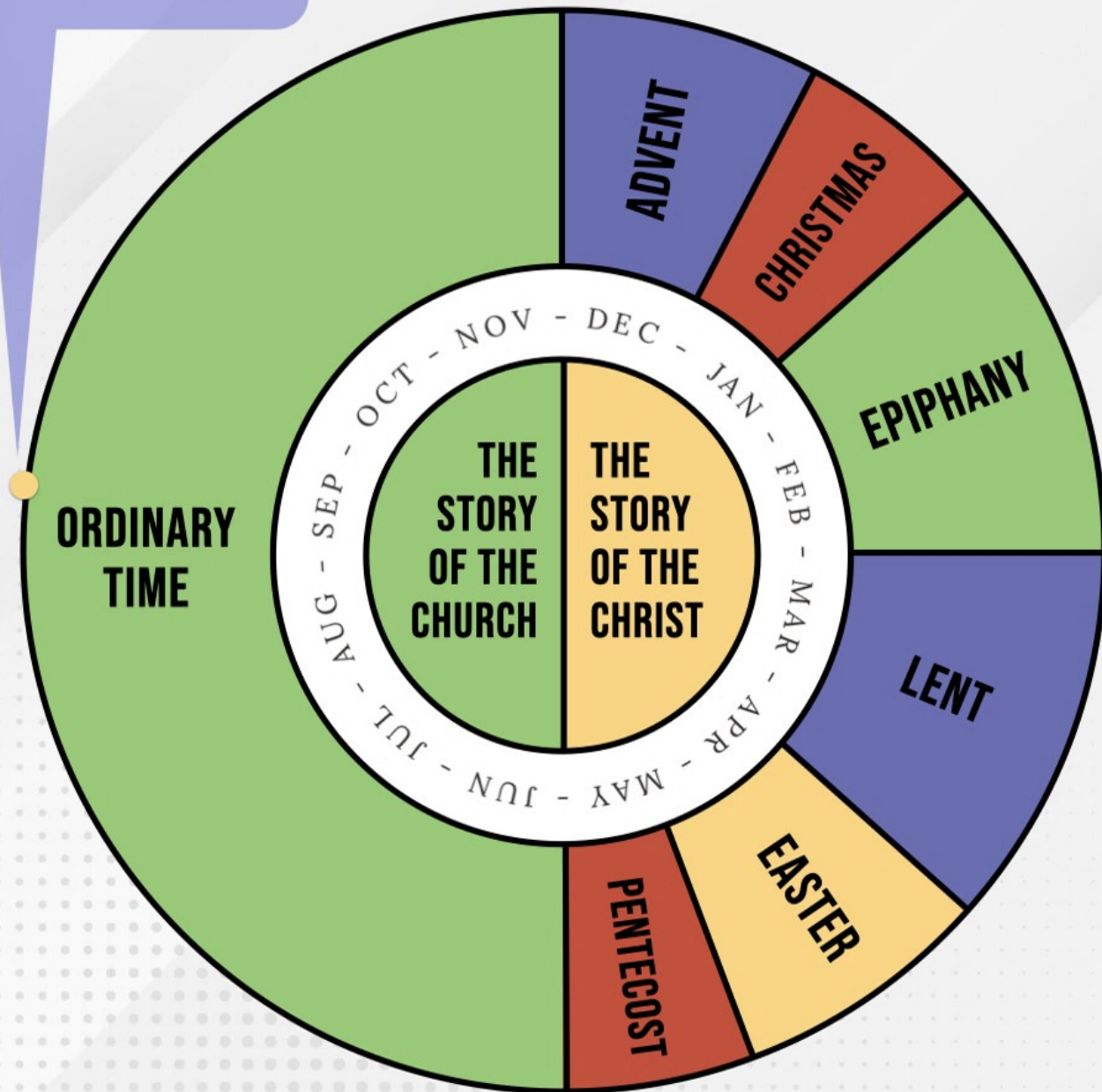




# PROVERBS

— THE WAY OF WISDOM —

**WE ARE HERE**



## **THE SEASONS OF THE CHRISTIAN CALENDAR**

Advent: Anticipation

Christmas: Incarnation

Epiphany: Revelation

Lent: Crucifixion

Easter: Resurrection

Pentecost: Ascension

Ordinary Time: Mission



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# PROVERBS

— THE WAY OF WISDOM —

# PROVERBS OUTLINE

**INTRODUCTION (1:1-7)**

**INSTRUCTION & INVITATION (1-9)**

**PROVERBS OF SOLOMON (10-29)**



**SAYINGS OF AGUR (30)**

**SAYINGS OF KING LEMUEL (31)**

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but fools despise wisdom & discipline. (Prov. 1:7)*

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*FATHER'S SPEECHES TO A SON*

*WISDOM'S CALL*

1

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WISDOM'S CALL

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2

3

4

STEWARDING THE **GIFTS OF GOD** IN OUR LIVES

HEALTH

INTEGRITY

DILIGENCE

JUSTICE

HOSPITALITY

FIDELITY



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WISDOM'S CALL

1 11 verses

6 9 verses

1

2 22 verses

7 7 verses

2

3 12 verses

8 23 verses

3

4 14 verses

9 35 verses

4

5 9 verses

10 27 verses

STEWARDING THE **GIFTS OF GOD** IN OUR LIVES

HEALTH

INTEGRITY

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# PROVERBS

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a) How are we to steward our sexuality?

In conversations surrounding Scripture's approach to human sexuality, two issues often get conflated:

a) How are we to steward our sexuality?

b) What is our posture towards those who have different sexual practices?

Clearly articulating a biblically consistent, Christ-honoring sexual ethic is not a condemnation of those who have different sexual ethics or practices.

# Jesus was very clear in his articulation of sexuality fidelity within the covenant of marriage

- Lust, Adultery, and Divorce (Matthew 5:27-32)
- Original Appeal to Marriage (Matthew 19:1-12)
- Jesus Did Not Sin Sexually (Hebrews 4:15)



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- Lust, Adultery, and Divorce (Matthew 5:27-32)
- Original Appeal to Marriage (Matthew 19:1-12)
- Jesus Did Not Sin Sexually (Hebrews 4:15)

Jesus was very compassionate in his interactions with people who sinned sexually

- The Woman at the Well (John 4:1-26)
- The Woman Caught in Adultery (John 8:1-11)
- The Woman who Anointed His Feet (Luke 7:36-50)



# PROVERBS

— THE WAY OF WISDOM —

# ***CREATION***

***Humanity was sexual before humanity became sinful.***

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- Our lives (and bodies) are representative of God in the world and named as very good. (Gen. 1:27, 31)

## **GENESIS 1:27, 31**

**So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them... God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.**

# ***CREATION***

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- God's first command was to be fruitful which can only happen through sexual intimacy. (Gen. 1:28)

## **GENESIS 1:28**

**God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."**

# ***CREATION***

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- Our lives (and bodies) are representative of God in the world and named as very good. (Gen. 1:27, 31)
- God's first command was to be fruitful which can only happen through sexual intimacy. (Gen. 1:28)
- Sexual union, within the covenant of marriage, was given as a gift without shame. (Gen. 2:24-25)



## **GENESIS 2:24-25**

**God That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.**

# **CAUTION**

***Fidelity is not overemphasized because of prudishness but because sexual sin is incredibly destructive.***

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- Human beings are not objects to be sexually consumed.  
(Pro. 6:23-29)

## PROVERBS 6:23-29

For the word is a lamp. The teaching is a light,  
and strong words that punish are the way of life.  
They keep you from the sinful woman, from the  
smooth tongue of a sinful woman. Do not desire  
her beauty in your heart.

## PROVERBS 6:23-29

Do not let her catch you with her eyes. For because of a woman who sells the use of her body, one is brought down to a loaf of bread. A sinful woman hunts to take a man's very life.

## PROVERBS 6:23-29

Can a man carry fire in his arms, and his clothes not be burned? Can a man walk on hot coals, and his feet not be burned? So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife. Whoever touches her will be punished.

# CAUTION

***Fidelity is not overemphasized because of prudishness but because sexual sin is incredibly destructive.***

- Human beings are not objects to be sexually consumed. (Pro. 6:23-29)
- Consider the painful and costly fallout of sexual infidelity. (Prov. 5:7-14)

## **PROVERBS 5:7-14**

**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, 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.**



## PROVERBS 5:7-14

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."

# CAUTION

***Fidelity is not overemphasized because of prudishness but because sexual sin is incredibly destructive.***

- Human beings are not objects to be sexually consumed. (Pro. 6:23-29)
- Consider the painful and costly fallout of sexual infidelity. (Prov. 5:7-14, 7:6-27)
- Your body is a gift that God has invited you to steward for His glory. (1 Cor. 6:12-20)

## 1 CORINTHIANS 6:12-20

"I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"—but I will not be mastered by anything. You say, "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both."

## **1 CORINTHIANS 6:12-20**

**The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself?**

## **1 CORINTHIANS 6:12-20**

**Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit.**

## 1 CORINTHIANS 6:12-20

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

# ***CELEBRATION***

***Sexual intimacy within the covenant of marriage  
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- Marital sexual intimacy is private, blessed, and satisfying.  
(Prov. 5:15-19)



## **PROVERBS 5:15-19**

**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.**

## **PROVERBS 5:15-19**

**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.**

# ***CELEBRATION***

***Sexual intimacy within the covenant of marriage is God-designed, powerful, and awesome.***

- Marital sexual intimacy is private, blessed, and satisfying. (Prov. 5:15-19)
- Marital sexual intimacy is bold, passionate, and approved by the wider faith community. (Song. 4:16-5:1)

## SONG OF SONGS 4:16-5:1

*She:* Awake, north wind, and come, south wind!  
Blow on my garden, that its fragrance may  
spread everywhere. Let my beloved come into  
his garden and taste its choice fruits.

## SONG OF SONGS 4:16-5:1

*He:* I have come into my garden, my sister, my bride; I have gathered my myrrh with my spice.

I have eaten my honeycomb and my honey;

I have drunk my wine and my milk.

*Friends:* Eat, friends, and drink; drink your fill of love.

# ***CELEBRATION***

***Sexual intimacy within the covenant of marriage is God-designed, powerful, and awesome.***

- Marital sexual intimacy is private, blessed, and satisfying. (Prov. 5:15-19)
- Marital sexual intimacy is bold, passionate, and approved by the wider faith community. (Song. 4:16-5:1)
- Marital sexual intimacy is way to serve and honor your spouse. (1 Cor. 7:3-5)

## **1 CORINTHIANS 7:3-5**

**The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. The wife does not have authority over her own body but yields it to her husband. In the same way, the husband does not have authority over his own body but yields it to his wife.**

## **1 CORINTHIANS 7:3-5**

**Do not deprive each other except perhaps by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.**



# **CONCLUSION**

***Marriage, one of God's greatest gifts, is so much more than sex. However, sex is a really lovely part of marriage.***

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- The covenant of marriage should be honored, respected, and protected. (Heb. 13:4)

## **HEBREWS 13:4**

**Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.**

# **CONCLUSION**

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- The covenant of marriage should be honored, respected, and protected. (Heb. 13:4)
- Marriage is the most important relational covenant between humans. (Ecc. 4:9-12)

## **ECCLESIASTES 4:9-12**

**Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.**

## **ECCLESIASTES 4:9-12**

**Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm.**

**But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves.**

**A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.**

# **CONCLUSION**

***Marriage, one of God's greatest gifts, is so much more than sex. However, sex is a really lovely part of marriage.***

- The covenant of marriage should be honored, respected, and protected. (Heb. 13:4)
- Marriage is the most important relational covenant between humans. (Ecc. 4:9-12)
- The wisest thing you can do in this life, 2nd to serving Christ wholeheartedly, is finding a godly spouse. (Pro. 31:10-30)

## **PROVERBS 31:10-12, 25-30**

**A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life.**



## **PROVERBS 31:10-12, 25-30**

**She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.**

## **PROVERBS 31:10-12, 25-30**

**Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: "Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all." Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.**



# PROVERBS

— THE WAY OF WISDOM —

*"Do this in  
remembrance of me."*

Luke 22:19

After a time of personal reflection & repentance, come forward to partake in the bread and cup.

*(Bread is gluten free.)*

