

Foolproof Your Choices

Foolproof: Wisdom For Life From The Book of Proverbs

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Introduction

Main Idea: You make choices and your choices make you.

I. Refuse To Give In To The Lure Of Short-term Pleasure

*Choose thoughtfulness over impulsivity. (vs. 6)

My son, pay attention to my wisdom, turn your ear to my words of insight,² that you may maintain discretion and your lips may preserve knowledge.³ For the lips of the adulterous woman drip honey, and her speech is smoother than oil;⁴ but in the end she is bitter as gall, sharp as a double-edged sword.⁵ Her feet go down to death; her steps lead straight to the grave.⁶ She gives no thought to the way of life; her paths wander aimlessly, but she does not know it. Proverbs 5:1-6

II. Set Boundary Lines And Stay Far From Them

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

⁸ Keep to a path far from her, do not go near the door of her house, Proverbs 5:7-8

III. Calculate The Long-term Costs Of Short-term Pleasure

...lest you lose your honor to others and your dignity to one who is cruel,¹⁰ lest strangers feast on your wealth and your toil enrich the house of another.¹¹ At the end of your life you will groan, when your flesh and body are spent.¹² You will say, "How I hated discipline! How my heart spurned correction!¹³ I would not obey my teachers or turn my ear to my instructors.¹⁴ And I was soon in serious trouble in the assembly of God's people." Proverbs 5:9-14

IV. Fully Enjoy What God Has Already Provided You

Drink water from your own cistern, running water from your own well.¹⁶ Should your springs overflow in the streets, your streams of water in the public squares?¹⁷ Let them be yours alone, never to be shared with strangers.¹⁸ May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth.¹⁹ A loving doe, a graceful deer—may her breasts satisfy you always, may you ever be intoxicated with her love. Proverbs 5:15-19