

	<p style="text-align: center;">WISDOM FOR THE JOURNEY</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“A wise man will hear and increase in learning, and a man of understanding will acquire wise counsel.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">– Proverbs 1:5</p> <p>Men have always needed wisdom. We need help to make decisions about work; all relationships – in speech and conduct; who to trust - or avoid; along with being measured by the plumb line of true character. Wisdom from Proverbs offers insight into the concrete experiences of human life that help us take charge of our lives. Proverbs is about how to live out your faith in God. There is no true wisdom apart from Jesus. Fools are those who rely on their own knowledge to navigate life. In this study, we will look and listen to hear God’s voice and see his Son shining through the book of Proverbs. We will be equipped in every way for our journey! So, let’s dig in!</p>	
<p>Highland Colony Men’s Roundtable www.MensTable.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WISDOM FOR THE JOURNEY: Knowing the Heart- The Seven Deadly Sins - LUST!</p> <p>A man needs wisdom for his journey. We can find that wisdom in Proverbs as we are pointed to Jesus.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June 6, 2024</p>
<p>Scripture: Proverbs 6:23-25; Proverbs 5:15-20; Proverbs 5:3-5; I Corinthians 6:13-20 ; Proverbs 15:11-17; Romans 1:24-32 ; James 1:13-15</p> <p>Music: Bob Seger – Night Moves https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xH7cSSKnkL4</p> <p>Video: John MacArthur - And God Gave them over - https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?fr=aaplw</p> <p>Resources - <i>GOD’S WISDOM for NAVIGATING LIFE</i> by Timothy Keller</p> <p><i>PROVERBS FOR YOU</i> by Kathleen Nielson</p>		

THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS: LUST! – What is IT?

1. **DRIVEN TO POSSESS** – Proverbs 6:23-25 → We are warned against *lusting* after someone’s *beauty*. It is one thing to recognize and appreciate someone’s physical attractiveness. It is another thing to be intensely driven to possess someone’s beautiful body for your own.
2. **PURSUIT OF THE EXPERIENCE** → Lust wants to get a fulfilling, self-maximizing experience from the person. Lust sees sex as a personal self-expression in order to be happy.
3. **REAL LOVE** → Real love moves you to give yourself fully to a particular woman. The biblical view of sex is a personal giving of one’s self, a personal self-donation that brings permanent unity and life. Sex without the giving of oneself is a catastrophe, akin to a body walking around without a head. Lust and sex without marriage is like tasting food without swallowing it.

THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS: LUST! – Why is pornography so widespread?
Unlimited access to newness – novelty & variety

THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS: LUST! – What is the antidote?

1. **LIFELONG COVENANT OF MARRIAGE** – Proverbs 5:3-5 → Sex without a promise of mutual whole-life commitment can lead one party to make a far greater emotional investment than the other, with agonizing results. Or it can teach both partners to use sex for pleasure and not for radical self-giving. Either way, it’s honey followed by hunger (I Cor. 6:13-20). Sex outside of a lifelong covenant of marriage is like eating honey rather than enjoying a full meal.
2. **JOYFUL ABANDONMENT** – Proverbs 5:15-19 → Spouses are to give themselves to each other in joyful abandonment. When people have sex outside marriage, maintaining their independence and right to walk away at any time, it turns sex into just a dispensed commodity, with both persons remaining detached and in control. Instead, sexual union should always and only take place between a husband and a wife who share every other kind of union—legal, social, financial, personal—in marriage. Sexual intimacy becomes richer and richer as two people who are committed to one another share through plenty and want, joy and sorrow, sickness and health, repentance and forgiveness.

ACTION: JOURNAL THIS!

1. When you see a woman, how do you know that you are celebrating her beauty or lusting?
2. How has pornography impacted your life?
3. What helps you to stay pure in your thoughts and actions?



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SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 6:23-25 - 23 For sound advice is a beacon, good teaching is a light, moral discipline is a life path.**24** They'll protect you from wanton women, from the seductive talk of some temptress.**25** Don't lustfully fantasize on her beauty, nor be taken in by her bedroom eyes.

Proverbs 5:15-20 - 15 Do you know the saying, "Drink from your own rain barrel, draw water from your own spring-fed well"?**16** It's true. Otherwise, you may one day come home and find your barrel empty and your well polluted.**17** Your spring water is for you and you only, not to be passed around among strangers.**18** Bless your fresh-flowing fountain! Enjoy the wife you married as a young man!**19** Lovely as an angel, beautiful as a rose - don't ever quit taking delight in her body. Never take her love for granted!**20** Why would you trade enduring intimacies for cheap thrills with a whore? for dalliance with a promiscuous stranger?

Proverbs 5:3-5 - 3 The lips of a seductive woman are oh so sweet, her soft words are oh so smooth.**4** But it won't be long before she's gravel in your mouth, a pain in your gut, a wound in your heart.**5** She's dancing down the primrose path to Death; she's headed straight for Hell and taking you with her.

I Corinthians 6:13-20 - 13 You know the old saying, "First you eat to live, and then you live to eat"? Well, it may be true that the body is only a temporary thing, but that's no excuse for stuffing your body with food, or indulging it with sex. Since the Master honors you with a body, honor him with your body!**14** God honored the Master's body by raising it from the grave. He'll treat yours with the same resurrection power.**15** Until that time, remember that your bodies are created with the same dignity as the Master's body. You wouldn't take the Master's body off to a whorehouse, would you? I should hope not.**16** There's more to sex than mere skin on skin. Sex is as much spiritual mystery as physical fact. As written in Scripture, "The two become one."**17** Since we want to become spiritually one with the Master, we must not pursue the kind of sex that avoids commitment and intimacy, leaving us more lonely than ever - the kind of sex that can never "become one."**18** There is a sense in which sexual sins are different from all others. In sexual sin we violate the sacredness of our own bodies, these bodies that were made for God-given and God-modeled love, for "becoming one" with another.**19** Or didn't you realize that your body is a sacred place, the place of the Holy Spirit? Don't you see that you can't live however you please, squandering what God paid such a high price for? The physical part of you is not some piece of property belonging to the spiritual part of you.**20** God owns the whole works. So let people see God in and through your body.

Proverbs 15:11-17 - 11 Even hell holds no secrets from God - do you think he can't read human hearts? Life Ascends to the Heights**12** Know-it-alls don't like being told what to do; they avoid the company of wise men and women.**13** A cheerful heart brings a smile to your face; a sad heart makes it hard to get through the day.**14** An intelligent person is always eager to take in more truth; fools feed on fast-food fads and fancies.**15** A miserable heart means a miserable life; a cheerful heart fills the day with song.**16** A simple life in the Fear-of-God is better than a rich life with a ton of headaches.**17** Better a bread crust shared in love than a slab of prime rib served in hate.

Romans 1:24-32 - 24 So God said, in effect, "If that's what you want, that's what you get." It wasn't long before they were living in a pigpen, smeared with filth, filthy inside and out.**25** And all this because they traded the true God for a fake god, and worshiped the god they made instead of the God who made them - the God we bless, the God who blesses us. Oh, yes!**26** Worse followed. Refusing to know God, they soon didn't know how to be human either - women didn't know how to be women, men didn't know how to be men.**27** Sexually confused, they abused and defiled one another, women with women, men with men - all lust, no love. And then they paid for it, oh, how they paid for it - emptied of God and love, godless and loveless wretches.**28** Since they didn't bother to acknowledge God, God quit bothering them and let them run loose.**29** And then all hell broke loose: rampant evil, grabbing and grasping, vicious backstabbing. They made life hell on earth with their envy, wanton killing, bickering, and cheating. Look at them: mean-spirited, venomous,**30** fork-tongued God-bashers. Bullies, swaggerers, insufferable windbags! They keep inventing new ways of wrecking lives. They ditch their parents when they get in the way.**31** Stupid, slimy, cruel, cold-blooded.**32** And it's not as if they don't know better. They know perfectly well they're spitting in God's face. And they don't care - worse, they hand out prizes to those who do the worst things best!

James 1:13-15 - 13 Don't let anyone under pressure to give in to evil say, "God is trying to trip me up." God is impervious to evil, and puts evil in no one's way.**14** The temptation to give in to evil comes from us and only us. We have no one to blame but the leering, seducing flare-up of our own lust.**15** Lust gets pregnant, and has a baby: sin! Sin grows up to adulthood, and becomes a real killer.

Night Moves by Bob Seger

I was a little too tall
Could've used a few pounds
Tight pants points hardly renown
She was a black-haired beauty with big dark eyes
And points all her own sitting way up high
Way up firm and high
Out past the cornfields where the woods got heavy
Out in the back seat of my '60 Chevy
Workin' on mysteries without any clues
Workin' on our night moves
Tryin' to make some front page drive-in news
Workin' on our night moves
In the summertime

In the sweet summertime
We weren't in love, oh no, far from it
We weren't searchin' for some pie in the sky
summit
We were just young and restless and bored
Livin' by the sword
And we'd steal away every chance we could
To the backroom, to the alley or the trusty woods
I used her, she used me
But neither one cared
We were gettin' our share
Workin' on our night moves
Tryin' to lose the awkward teenage blues

Workin' on our night moves
And it was summertime
Sweet summertime summertime
And oh the wonder
We felt the lightning
And we waited on the thunder
Waited on the thunder
I awoke last night to the sound of thunder
How far off I sat and wondered
Started humming a song from 1962
Ain't it funny how the night moves
When you just don't seem to have as much to lose
Strange how the night moves
With autumn closing in

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