

## How To Keep From Losing It All

### The Ground Rules:

Proverbs 7:1-4

- ▶ Today's teaching has to be at the center of our:
  - ✓ **Focus**
  - ✓ **Actions**
  - ✓ **Desires**
  
- ▶ Make **wisdom** and **understanding** our **companions**.

### The Stories Behind This Story:

Proverbs 7:5

- ▶ A Twisted Family Tree:  
1 Samuel 17:20-31   2 Samuel 11:1-17   2 Samuel 13:1-29   2 Samuel 16:21-22  
1 Kings 2:13-25   1 Chronicles 3:3-6

### How To Avoid A Moral Failure:

Proverbs 7:6-27, 2:12-19, 5:1-23   Romans 7 & 8   Ephesians 5:1-20   1 Corinthians 6:9-20  
1 Corinthians 7:1-10

- ▶ Avoid the **direction**, not just the **destination**.
- ▶ Don't fight against our **temptations**... **RUN from** them!
- ▶ Always remember that:
  - ✓ When I think I have it **beat**, I'm **beaten**.
  - ✓ The end is **sudden**, **shocking**, and never worth the **fun**.

### Taking it home:

## Food for Thought for the week of July 12, 2015

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

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1. In Proverbs 6, Solomon writes advice to his son on how to avoid becoming like the guy we read about in Proverbs 7 this weekend. How could you apply the advice he gives in Proverbs 6:20-35 to avoid not only sexual immorality but also other areas of your life where you might be tempted to sin?

What are some of the most significant indicators that show you are losing self-control and are about to give in to temptation?

2. When it comes to avoiding sexual immorality, we'll find a lot more success if we don't try to do it on our own or with just our own strength. What resources do you find in the following passages that can help you live a life that is pleasing to God?

### **Romans 6:12-14**

<sup>12</sup> Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. <sup>13</sup> Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. <sup>14</sup> For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace. *[NIV]*

### **1 Peter 2:11-12**

*Living Godly Lives in a Pagan Society*

<sup>11</sup> Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup> Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. *[NIV]*

### **1 Corinthians 6:18-20**

<sup>18</sup> Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. <sup>19</sup> 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; <sup>20</sup> you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies. *[NIV]*

### **James 5:16**

<sup>16</sup> Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. *[NIV]*

### **Ecclesiastes 4:9-12**

<sup>9</sup> Two are better than one,  
because they have a good return for their labor:

<sup>10</sup> 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.

<sup>11</sup> Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm.  
But how can one keep warm alone?

<sup>12</sup> Though one may be overpowered,  
two can defend themselves.

A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. *[NIV]*

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### Resources for those struggling with Sexual Purity:

- **Game Plan Packet** – for those struggling with pornography. Available in the Corner Café or front desk at the Vista campus and at the Carlsbad, Fallbrook, and San Marcos/Escondido Campuses. It's also online at <http://www.northcoastchurch.com/the-game-plan>.
- **North Coast Church Counseling Center** – to schedule an appointment or to find out more information, call Jeanne Bessant at (760) 724-6700 x239  
<http://www.northcoastchurch.com/connect/care/the-counseling-center>

#### **SEEKING GODLY WISDOM / Proverbs Daily Reading Plan:**

Read the chapter that corresponds to the day of the month and consider these questions:

- ⇒ What applies to me today?
- ⇒ Where have I seen this in others?
- ⇒ Where have I experienced this?

Go to this link for more info: <http://www.northcoastchurch.com/proverbs-reading-plan>