Good evening, I'm going to invite you to open
them with me again to the book of Proverbs.
The book of Proverbs began this study, I guess it was
last Wednesday night, maybe two Wednesday nights ago.
And I'm not sure exactly how long we'll be here, I
didn't have any plans to go to all 31 of these chapters,
but so far I haven't been able to skip any of them.
And the next one up is Proverbs chapter 5, is where we're going to be tonight.
And now, 21 years of preaching, I was called to
preach in May of 2005, now we're in November of 2026,
so it's been 21 years ago.
The Lord has allowed me, I keep a little book at
home, and I write down everywhere I get to preach,
what number it was, number one or two, or now over 1,700 times the
Lord has allowed me to stand behind a pulpit and share His Word.
I've never taught or preached on this chapter, and I kind of probably know why.
Tonight I cover your prayers as we look at what the Lord led Solomon to pin.
And whether it's for anyone in here in particular,
whether it's to keep something from happening,
I'm confident that God will use His Word to accomplish His purpose.
Proverbs chapter 5, begin reading in verse 1.
My son, I always begin, my son.
My son, my son, attend to my wisdom.
To attend to something means to attend to it.
Attend to my witness and my wisdom, and bow Thou an ear to my understanding,
that Thou mayest regard discretion, and that Thou lip may keep knowledge.
For the lips of a strange woman drop as
honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil.
But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword.
Her feet go down to death, her steps take hold on hell.
Lest Thou shouldest ponder the path of life,
her ways are movable, that Thou cannot know them.
Hear me now, therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth.
Remove Thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house.
Lest Thou give Thine honor unto others in Thy years unto the cruel.
Lest strangers be filled with Thy wealth, and
Thy labors be in the house of the stranger.
Verse 11, it says,
Now mourn at the last, when Thy flesh and Thy body are consumed.
And say, this person's talking to himself now, after all this great college.
And say,
How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof,
and have not obeyed the voice of my teachers,
nor inclined my ear to them that instructed me?
There's an exclamation point at the end of that verse.
I was almost and all evil in the midst of the congregation.
Verse 15 says,

Drink waters out of Thine own cistern, and running waters out of Thine own well.
Let Thy fountains be dispersed abroad, and rivers of waters in the streets.
Let them be only Thine own, and not strangers with Thee.
Let Thy fountains be blessed, and rejoice with the wife of Thy youth.
Let her be as a loving kind in pleasant row.
Let her breath satisfy Thee at all times, and be Thou ravished always with her love.
The question, verse 20,
And why wilt Thou, my son, be ravished with a strange woman,
and embrace the bosom of a stranger?
If you want to underline one verse in this chapter, it should be verse 21.
It says,
For the ways of men are before the eyes of the Lord,
and he pondereth all his goings.
His own iniquity shall take the wicked himself,
and he shall be holden with the cords of his sin.
He shall die without instruction,
and in the greatness of his folly,
he shall go astray.
Let's pray.
Father, I pray that you would take your word,
that you inspired Solomon to pen,
Lord, not just for his son,
but for this son,
that your eternal truth,
your great wisdom,
will be more than a subject for us to study,
but an invaluable treasure of fact,
a living reality in our lives,
that we operate before this great God,
who sees all of our goings and all of our doings,
Lord,
that we seek you in all that we do.
God, help me tonight to share this word,
your word,
with clarity and grace and humility,
Lord, also with courage and with conviction.
I thank you for your goodness towards us.
In Jesus' sweet name I pray.
Amen.
And amen.
Proverbs chapter 5,
the title, subtitle in my Bible,
says,
Drink from your own well.
That'll be the subject or the title
for the lesson or the message tonight.
It's drink from your own well.

This chapter begins with this call
from this father to his son,
this call to humility.
You say, Brother Brian,
where do you see the call to humility come from?
Well, look here at verse 1.
He says, My son,
intend to my wisdom
and bow thine ear
to my understanding.
He's asking his son,
he's requesting his son,
all of us now,
to turn your attention to me.
Not just simply turn your attention,
but to bow your ear down,
to come before this great instruction
that I have for you.
Place yourself before it,
but don't just place yourself before it,
but place yourself underneath it.
And in order for us
to be able to do those things,
it requires humility on our part.
It requires us to come to grips
with the fact that we don't know
all that there is to know.
That we don't have everything figured out.
That our life is not entirely perfect.
That there is a voice worth listening to
and instructions worth eating.
And this is how this proverb begins.
Because no one can afford not to.
No one can afford not to attend
to the wisdom of God.
No one can afford
not to bow their ear
that we might understand him.
I read a quote this week
that just happens,
not just happens,
but it speaks to this Proverbs chapter 5.
A preacher who has recently gone home to be with the Lord but named Votie Bauckham,
he said this, he said,
the wisest man in the Bible
fell into sexual sin.
The strongest man in the Bible

fell into sexual sin.
And the godliest man in the Bible
fell to sexual sin.
For me to think that I'm above
falling into this sin
is to think that I'm wiser than Solomon,
stronger than Samson,
and godlier than King David.
that I humble myself
before the instruction of God.
That I bow my ear down
to this great appeal,
not just from Solomon the Father
but from God the Father
who says,
these destructions that I'm going to give you, these warnings
that I'm going to give you,
they're for your benefit,
not your harm.
They're to bless you and to keep you,
not to take joy
and pleasure away from you.
They're for my glory and they're for your good.
And he moves here from this call in verse 1 and 2 now,
he tells them
this woman to avoid.
And it's the strange woman.
Look here in verse number 3.
He says,
verse 1 and 2 again, My son,
intend unto my wisdom
and bow thine ear to my understanding
that thou mayest
regard his discretion
and that thy lips may keep knowledge.
For the lips of a strange woman
drop as honeycomb
and her mouth is smoother than oil.
But her end
is bitter as warm wood,
sharp as a two-edged sword.
Her feet go down to death, her steps take hold on hell
lest thou shouldst ponder the path of life.
Her ways are movable
that thou canst not know them.
Solomon describes
this strange woman

that her lips are sweet,
they're sensual,
they're soothing.
There's something
mesmerizing about her.
There's a lure
about her.
She has this very strong appeal,
this attraction
that is almost mesmerizing
due to the physical pleasure
that comes here with this woman,
referred to as the strange woman.
But there's a but
that he gives here,
beginning in verse number 4.
He says, her end is insanely bitter
and razor sharp.
I studied a little bit on that word wormwood.
It's a real plant that grows over in the Middle East.
It is offensively bitter to the taste.
It's disgusting
to put in your mouth.
Sharp as a two-edged sword,
it's razor sharp.
He said,
now her lips are like honey
coming from the honeycomb.
There's an attractiveness to her.
There's a lure about her.
You're drawn to her.
But no,
the truth about this woman
is that she's insanely bitter.
She's razor sharp.
And her direction leads to death and destruction.
Verse number 5.
Her feet go down to death and her steps take hold on hell.
But the real scary verse to me here is verse number 6.
He said, Her ways are beyond discovery.
He said,
Her feet go down to death.
Her steps take hold on hell.
Lest thou shouldst ponder the path of life.
Her ways are movable that thou canst not know them.
He's warning his son.
I don't believe this sin had occurred yet.

I'm not sure if it's something that he was beginning to... By the way,
every sin that happens in our life
begins in the brain before it takes place with our hands
or our feet or our mouth.
Begins in the brain.
It begins in the heart.
I called Mitch today.
I said, Baby, I'm nervous about teaching when I'm going to teach tonight.
I said, I want you to read Proverbs chapter 5.
And I was driving over here and she called me.
She said,
Boy, that's a tough one.
She said, I was reading through my Bible.
And she said, I want to share something that my study Bible had in it.
And I said, Please do.
And so I had her text it to me and I wrote this down.
It says,
The son must incorporate the values of the father
into his life
before the temptation
described occurs.
Y'all get that?
The son must incorporate the values of the father
into his life
before the temptation occurs.
Moral stability
prior to the temptation
is the prerequisite for successful resistance.
Moral stability prior to the temptation is the prerequisite
for successful resistance.
Solomon then began in chapter 5.
He began in chapter 1 and chapter 2
and chapter 3 and chapter 4.
And he's talking about this great wisdom of God,
the great wisdom of God
that will promote us, that will keep us,
that will help us, that it won't harm us.
But this was something that this son had to intend to.
He had to incline
his ear to.
He had to be humble and present himself before it.
So now comes this warning of this strange woman
and she's so attractive and she's so appealing
and she's magnetic about her
and there is a physical sensation and a touch and there's something about it
that you just can't deny that is real.
He says, But you've got to know the rest of her.

I heard an old preacher say
that sin and Satan
only tell half the story.
God in his wisdom tell the full story.
That there's another side.
Proverbs 20, 17 says,
Bread of the seed is sweet to a man
but afterwards
his mouth is filled with gravel.
Son, that if you go here
you need to understand
where she would lead,
where it leads you.
And he gives him now, he moves from this woman
to avoid this strange woman to this instruction
he's to receive
beginning in verse number 7.
He says, Hear me now therefore,
just having given him the facts.
Giving him the facts, giving him the facts, giving him the facts
about where this is going to go,
what this individual is.
He says, Hear me now therefore,
O ye children,
and depart not from the words of my mouth.
Remove thy way far from her
and come not nigh the door of her house.
Lest thou give thine honor
unto others and thy years unto the cruel.
Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth and
thy labors be in the house of a stranger.
And thou mourn at the last when thy flesh and thy body are consumed.
And say, How have I hated instruction?
And my heart despised her proof
and have not obeyed the voice of my teachers
nor inclined my ear to them that instructed me.
I was almost in all evil in the midst of the congregation
and the assembly.
What are you saying here?
If son, if you're here,
if you're close to there,
if you're anywhere near there,
remove far away from her.
Remove.
And if you're not there
and contemplating going there
or one day may think of a place

that you might actually go there,
he says, don't even go near the door of her house.
He said,
because if you do,
it will cost you.
And he lists a few things in this verse
that it would cost his son,
that it would cost me,
that it will cost you.
Look at verse 9.
He says, it's going to cost you
your honor.
Verse 8, remove thy way far from her
and come not nigh the door of her house,
lest thou give thine honor
unto others.
I told your parents,
y'all may have to explain some of this when
you get home and y'all beg, y'all can do it.
Kyler, what he's saying to his son,
if you go here,
you're going to lose some things.
And one of those things that you're going to lose
is your honor
and respect
that you should have for yourself,
that you should have
as a child of God.
Folks,
there is forgiveness for everything.
Let me say that again.
There is forgiveness in the Lord for everything.
The only thing that isn't forgivable is when a
man blasphemes the Holy Spirit of God and says,
I'll have none of you.
I'll have none of this salvation.
I'm going to maintain my own way.
I don't need the cross.
I don't need any of this.
There is no forgiveness for that.
But other than that,
praise God, it all can be forgiven.
But let me tell you this too.
Folks, there are some things once you lose them,
you have lost them forever.
And that is the risk
of losing the honor

of this man
engaging in this relationship with this strange woman.
He tells me in verse number 10,
look here.
He says, Let strangers be filled with thy wealth and thy labors be
in the house of a stranger.
All the things, all the pleasures that you labored for, to me,
this is,
I mean, I'm not going to,
it doesn't anywhere near rank to me as high as number 9 does
or 11 through 14.
But basically,
it's what I tell him, all this stuff that you've worked for
and you've labored for and you've strived for,
all of those things are going to belong to somebody else.
They're going to be
in somebody else's house
because you cannot keep,
it blows my mind sometimes, and I want to share this tonight with humility,
with humility.
If I think I'm stronger than Samson or godlier than David or wiser than Solomon,
I'm a fool
because I can fall into it too.
But it blows my mind sometimes why we think that we can do the things
that are absolutely contrary to the will of God
yet somehow maintain all the peace, all the pleasure,
all the things in this life
that God by His grace has given us.
It don't work that way.
No, he says, all that stuff, that's going to be in somebody else's home.
That's not going to be yours anymore.
That's one of the painful things about divorce.
I know divorce happens.
I know it happens.
I know it happens.
It's going to be hard to raise kids in different families.
It ain't going to be easy.
Forgiveness is available.
But that honor that you lost,
you may not ever be able to get that back in the eyes of men.
These things are gone.
Look at the pain though of verse number 11 through 14.
He says, verse 10,
lest strangers be filled with thy wealth and
thy labors be in the house of a stranger.
And now he says in verse 11,
and thou mourn at the last when thy flesh and thy body are consumed and say,

he's talking to himself,
how have I hated instruction and my heart despised reproof
and have not obeyed the voice of my teachers
nor inclined my ear to them that instructed me.
It is now
to sit back and live in the sad reality and go, I am the one
to blame
that I did this to myself
because wisdom spoke and I wouldn't listen.
God convicted and I wouldn't listen.
I knew the right thing to do
and I wouldn't do it.
That somehow,
somehow,
somehow I could go in this direction and I know it's
mesmerizing and magnetizing and it's pleasurable
for a season
but the reality is it's bitter in the end,
it's death in the end,
it's destruction in the end,
all of this is horrible in the end
and now we have to sit back
understanding
I hated instruction.
I hated reproof.
If we ever get to a place
that we can't be taught to
and Robert,
we're unwilling to listen
especially people that love us
and are godly people
we are on the precipice, I mean we are at the doorstep
of making some of the worst decisions
in our life.
I love
the love
that I see in Solomon.
He's going to talk about so many things and
he had talked about so many positive things
and positive things but you know,
listen,
this is a reality.
It always has been
and it's one of these things that will absolutely destroy and wreck
this destruction to receive
and now though
he swaps gears here,

look what he says in verse number 15,
there's a woman to avoid,
there's a woman to shun
and I don't have all this laid out tonight, I really don't.
I don't know exactly how these things begin.
I know it begins with sin and it leads to greater sin
but
this woman,
he says,
avoid her,
avoid her, avoid her.
Men,
young men,
old men,
by the way, this ain't just for young men.
I don't remember the rascal's name, I don't know, he's about 75,
76 years old
and I used to listen to him preach on the radio all the time.
I mean, he's brilliant,
he's a genius,
he's a wonderful,
wonderful preacher.
and very conservative,
very conservative,
very conservative.
Well,
the fact is, he had been having an affair
with this woman in the church about 30 years younger than him
for the past 10 years
and just rocking on, rocking on, rocking on like nothing ever happened.
And the way he got outed
is that woman's daddy finally found out and says, listen,
if you don't confess this before the church and before
God and everybody else, I'm going to do it for you.
And so finally, he had to own up to this thing and that's where he is.
But I think,
how does this begin?
I'm going to tell you how it begins.
It begins
with a relationship between a man and a woman
that should not be.
I've told people this at work.
I've got friends and they're all guys.
Now,
Tammy Cook's my friend.
Carol Warner's my friend.
Me and Brittany,

she says, my friend.
We're friends.
But I'm going to tell you something.
I'm only going to confide.
There's a reason when me and Brittany and Ethan text.
We do it all together at the same time.
If we ain't going to talk about this stuff at church,
when are we going to talk about that?
Not intending for it to go there, but it goes there.
So Solomon,
with all the love in his heart, with his daddy in his heart, he said, son,
son,
this is a strange woman,
strange woman.
Avoid her.
There's death at the end of this thing.
It's destruction at the end of it.
Bitter as one would,
you cannot go there
because if you do,
you will not only lose your things, you are going to lose your honor
and you're going to sit back and go,
how I hated instruction
that I've done this to myself.
But I love,
look here,
here's one of the solutions.
Verse 15,
drink waters out of thy own cistern and running waters out of thy own well.
Let thy fountains be dispersed abroad
and rivers of waters in the streets.
Let them be only thine and not strangers with thee.
Let thy fountain be blessed and rejoice with the wife of thy youth.
The wife,
the wife,
the wife,
the wife,
the wife of thy youth.
Let her be as a loving hind
in pleasant row.
Let her breast satisfy thee at all times
and be thy ravished always with her.
But this is what he's telling me.
He says, you have a precious whale,
not a poisoned whale.
You have a known woman,
not a strange woman.

Run from the strange woman
and run back home to your wife.
Find satisfaction in her.
In her.
Amen.
Amen.
Drink water
out of your own well.
The woman to shun.
The woman to embrace.
He asks the question here in verse number 20.
And it says,
why wilt thou my son be ravished with a strange woman
and embrace the bosom of a stranger when we know where this goes?
We know where it leads.
Run home.
Run home.
Run home to your wife.
Now we're going to get here in just a minute and you go, what if that's
not the relationship that it needs to be?
We're going to touch on that in just a second.
But I'm telling you, it don't matter if it ain't
what it needs to be.
That ain't an out.
It ain't a pass
to go into places where we ought not go
and do things that we ought not do.
I'm really,
really big,
man.
I really,
me and Nietzsche have got to do it in a few years and
we did it last year, maybe doing it again this year.
Of the things that we can invest in,
of the things that we can invest in,
there's nothing greater
than investing in marriage and family and couples
and they're strengthening their home.
They're just not.
He says,
the woman to embrace,
now,
he says there's a sure fact to ponder.
He looks at verse number 20.
And why wilt thou, my son, be ravished with a strange woman
and embrace the bosom of a stranger?
Look at verse 21.

He says, for the ways of men
are before the eyes of the Lord
and he pondereth all his goings.
What a statement.
What a reality.
Now he's taking it to the full extreme.
Even beyond what this sin will do to you.
Even beyond what this sin will do to me.
Even beyond what it would do to our spouse
and to our wives and to our family.
He says, son,
all that you're doing or all that you're planning to do is going to be
under the direct microscope of an all-knowing God.
Ladies,
young ladies,
I want all of y'all to look at me.
Everything that you do,
everything that your preacher does,
it is all
under the gigantic microscope of an all-knowing
and holy God.
not just in here
but out there.
Men,
you got your little relationship at work.
We ain't crossed any.
We ain't touched but you're making comments a bit.
If you won't say it in front of your wife,
don't say it.
You're doing it
before the eyes of the Lord.
The Lord pondereth.
He pondereth.
Y'all, that is a,
that's a scary thing.
But you know what's an awesome thing?
It's that the ways of men
are before the eyes of the Lord and he pondereth all of his goings.
Sister Ed and Earl,
that tomorrow
the Lord is going to be with you as you go on your trip
to see your oncologist.
He's right there with you.
Knows everything that's happening.
By the way,
God's still king.
He knows who won the election last night and God ain't

wringing his hands and he got a scowl on his face.
The Lord's with us.
He's walking with us.
He's going with us
in the good times and in the bad times.
All that you're doing,
he says, for the ways of men are before the eyes of the Lord
and he pondereth on all of his goings.
Look at verse 22.
He says, His own iniquity shall take the wicked himself
and he shall be holden with the corn cords
of his sins.
He shall die without instruction
and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.
I want you to look at just a few words right here.
His own iniquities in verse 1
shall take the wicked himself.
Verse 22,
and in the greatness of his folly
he shall go astray.
What point are you trying to make?
Brother Alton, if you get here, nobody did this to you.
It's your own.
He did this to himself.
That I would do this to myself if I go here.
That there's no one to blame.
I don't know if it's always been this way.
But buddy,
it seems like it has ramped over the last few years.
Ain't nothing anybody's fault anymore.
I use it at work.
I don't know.
It wasn't me.
I said,
I sure would like to hire
but it wasn't me
because he does a lot.
It's nobody's fault.
No, Jake, it's our responsibility.
But folks, there's some Proverbs,
some previous words of wisdom
that perfectly apply
to what Solomon writes in chapter 5.
And we find them in chapter 3 and chapter 4.
We looked at one Sunday morning.
Proverbs 3, 5, and 6.
He says,

Trust in the Lord
with all thine heart.
Lean not on thine own understanding.
In all thy ways
acknowledge him
and he shall direct thy paths.
I said it Sunday morning.
Not only is it possible but often times it's really easy
to reason ourself right outside the will of God.
Okay?
And I want to add to that.
Not only is it possible
but often times it's really easy
to reason ourself
right into sin.
My instructions for you and for me is we cannot trust ourselves.
Don't trust yourself.
Isn't that what
Proverbs 3, 5, and 6?
Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and what?
Lean not on who?
On thine own understanding.
Don't trust ourself.
Jeremiah says as we looked at Jeremiah chapter 10.
It is not in man
to direct his steps.
It is not in man
to know the right way.
It is not in man to do the right thing.
It is not in man to even know where he needs to go.
But the scripture also tells us the heart is the seed above all things
desperately wicked who can know it.
Don't trust yourself.
We can talk ourselves
into anything.
Amen.
We can talk ourselves
into anything.
Preaching my marriage isn't what it needs to be.
I'm not getting this from my husband.
I'm not getting this from my wife.
But they're so attentive and this person is so
attentive and he's so this and she's so that.
I don't care.
God don't care.
Don't trust yourself.
We can talk ourselves

straight into sin.
sin.
So who do I trust?
I trust God and his wisdom.
And if mine and Mitzi's marriage ain't what it
needs to be you know what I need to go back to do?
I need to go back to the word of God and I need to start loving my wife
as Christ loved the church and gave himself for it.
I need to work on my marriage.
I don't start
entertaining.
I've had it justified to me.
Over there
in that portionage.
Justified
why they did what they did and they could do what they do.
You know who they justified it before?
They justified it to themselves because it was not justified before God
nor will it ever be.
Proverbs 4
Keep thy heart with all diligence
for out of it
are the issues of life.
See we need God to do a work
in our heart
because the ways of man are right.
We need God to do a work in our heart.
But this is even more than that.
That after God does a work in our heart
we do all that we can
to keep our heart
above all things above all things with all diligence.
We looked at that Sunday night.
That word diligence is a word for a prison.
A guardhouse.
That this heart of mine
is so valuable
because everything that I do comes from it
that I lock it up to keep the evil out and to keep myself
from going astray.
You see how all this leads up to Proverbs chapter 5?
My son keep your heart with all diligence for out of it are the issues of life.
Trust in the Lord with all your heart believe not on your own understanding.
In all your ways acknowledge Him
and He will
direct your paths.
My son

verse 22
I want to close.
My son
attend
to my wisdom
and bow thine ear
to my understanding
that Thou mayest
regard discretion
and that Thy lips
may keep knowledge.
dear Father
with you there is victory
with you there is strength
with you there is light
there is assistance there is guidance there is joy there is peace
there is help
there is forgiveness for all great failures
but God was so heavy on my heart tonight
Lord may I
never be a man
who fails to listen to your divine instruction
Lord that I will incline my ear
to your word
that we as a church
would not believe ourselves to be stronger than
Samson or godlier than David or wiser than Solomon
that we would live humble lives
keeping our heart with all diligence
for the good of ourselves the good of our family
but most of all dear Lord for the glory
of your name
God I pray for every home that is here for every marriage
Lord for those who have come out of failed ones those who are in new ones
whatever one that they're in Lord I pray for success for that one
I pray for our young people
who have yet to found this mate for life
Lord that the young men would avoid the strange women
and that the young women would avoid the evil men
that they would lean not on their
own understanding but trust you
seek their peace in you
Lord I love you and I thank you
in Jesus name I pray Amen
one hundred things
and I