



## Proverbs 7

My son, keep my words and store up my commands within you.<sup>2</sup> Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye. <sup>3</sup> Bind them on your fingers; write them on the tablet of your heart.<sup>4</sup> Say to wisdom, “You are my sister,”

and to insight, “You are my relative.”<sup>5</sup> They will keep you from the adulterous woman, from the wayward woman with her seductive words.<sup>6</sup> At the window of my house I looked down through the lattice.<sup>7</sup> I saw among the simple, I noticed among the young men, a youth who had no sense.<sup>8</sup> He was going down the street near her corner, walking along in the direction of her house <sup>9</sup> at twilight, as the day was fading,

as the dark of night set in. <sup>10</sup> Then out came a woman to meet him, dressed like a prostitute and with crafty intent. <sup>11</sup> (She is unruly and defiant, her feet never stay at home; <sup>12</sup> now in the street, now in the squares, at every corner she lurks.)

<sup>13</sup> She took hold of him and kissed him and with a brazen face she said: <sup>14</sup> “Today I fulfilled my vows, and I have food from my fellowship offering at home.

<sup>15</sup> So I came out to meet you; I looked for you and have found you! <sup>16</sup> I have covered my bed with colored linens from Egypt.<sup>17</sup> I have perfumed my bed

with myrrh, aloes and cinnamon.<sup>18</sup> Come, let’s drink deeply of love till morning;

let’s enjoy ourselves with love! <sup>19</sup> My husband is not at home; he has gone on a long journey.<sup>20</sup> He took his purse filled with money and will not be home till full moon.”<sup>21</sup> With persuasive words she led him astray;

she seduced him with her smooth talk. <sup>22</sup> All at once he followed her like an ox going to the slaughter, like a deer[a] stepping into a snare[b]<sup>23</sup> till an arrow pierces his liver, like a bird darting into a snare, little knowing it will cost him his life. <sup>24</sup> Now then, my sons, listen to me; pay attention to what I say. <sup>25</sup> Do not let your heart turn to her ways or stray into her paths. <sup>26</sup> Many are the victims she has brought down; her slain are a mighty throng. <sup>27</sup> Her house is a highway to the grave, leading down to the chambers of death.

# Prayer Journal

## Devotion

Once again we find the Law of God in this passage very clearly. God wants us to be faithful to him and his teachings.

He shows us through the Ten Commandments what he expects of us. This passage in particular relates to the sixth commandment. While not everyone struggles with this particular sin we all have sins in our lives we struggle with. Luckily God knew we would struggle and he sent his Son to die on the cross and forgive us. Does that mean we have a free get out of jail card everyday? Can we do whatever we want because Jesus forgives us anyways? No, but we can be reassured that when we mess up we have forgiveness at the cross. We are forgiven everyday by Christ who became man for us. He understands so clearly there are temptations in our lives as he himself was tempted during his time on earth. He knows what we are going through, and when we struggle we need to reach out to him as a child reaches for help. He will provide that help, swooping us up into his loving arms and hold us closer to him than ever before.

**Prayer:** Lord, Thank you for forgiving us everyday. We falter and we walk away from you sometimes, but you are always there. You are always waiting to hold us and care for us as child is cared for by their parent. You want us to know you better, just as we want to know you better. give us Grace when we need it, and help us stay steadfast in your ways.