

## A Faithful Husband

My son, pay attention to my wisdom,  
listen well to my words of insight,  
that you may maintain discretion  
and your lips may preserve  
knowledge.

For the lips of an adulteress drip honey,  
and her speech is smoother than oil;  
but in the end she is bitter as gall,  
sharp as a double-edged sword.

Drink water from your own cistern,  
running water from your own well.  
Should your springs overflow in the  
streets,  
your streams of water in the public  
squares?

Let them be yours alone,  
never to be shared with strangers.  
May your fountain be blessed,  
and may you rejoice in the wife of  
your youth.

A loving doe, a graceful deer—  
may her breasts satisfy you always,  
may you ever be captivated by her  
love.

Why be captivated, my son, by an  
adulteress?  
Why embrace the bosom of another  
man's wife?

For a man's ways are in full view of the  
Lord,  
and he examines all his paths.  
The evil deeds of a wicked man  
ensnare him;  
the cords of his sin hold him fast.  
He will die for lack of discipline,  
led astray by his own great folly.

Proverbs 5:1-4, 15-23