



### **Guide – Slippery Slopes**

#### **OUTLINE & SCRIPTURES**

*Proverbs 7 - Avoiding the path to adultery*

*The Story*

- Image of father passing on wisdom and information to a child
- Father tells a story of looking out his window and seeing a young man
- This young man wanders off towards an area of town in which a prostitute lives
- The prostitute comes out, grabs him, and begins to kiss him and seduce him with her words
- Her house is compared to the “road to the grave” (Proverbs 7:27)

*What do we learn?*

- **The importance of strong boundaries**

- Man begins walking towards this house at night (7:9)
- Flashlights didn't exist, and he didn't have a plan
- The placement of proper boundaries allows us to distance ourselves from these types of situations.
- Equivalent of childproofing a home
- Taking preventative measures to ensure a child's safety within a house by restricting access to items that may cause harm

- **The importance of not isolating ourselves**

- Initially, this man was seen with a group of people (7:7) yet he wanders off on his own
- Long before we set boundaries, it's important that we have people to hold us accountable for these boundaries
- 1 Cor 12 reminds us that the Christian life isn't one meant to be lived alone or in isolation but as part of the full Body of Christ

- **The true nature of slippery slopes**

- If I make an exception for you, I must make an exception for everyone
- Slippery slopes are statements that assume that one action has one singular inevitable outcome
- They are a logical fallacy based in assumptions
- To prevent fallacious usage, we have to acknowledge the existence of a middle ground



- **Our role in the Kingdom of God**

- This section of Scripture begins with “my son” and denotes the passing on of wisdom and information
- God is trying to pass on His wisdom and teachings through the writings found in Scripture
- He is our perfect father, and as His followers, we have been adopted into His family and can be called His children (Romans 8)
- Our job, then, is to pursue wisdom and Christlikeness
- Life isn't about only setting boundaries or living in community, but it's about the constant pursuit of God's will in every decision
- It starts when we begin to extend our faith beyond Sunday and beyond the Church walls