

FOUNDATIONS: Proverbs 6

"I have **stored up Your word** in my mind, that I might not sin **against You.**" Ps. 119: 11

6 My son; If you have **put up security** for a **friend's debt** or if you **have agreed to guarantee the debt** of a stranger— ² if you have **trapped yourself by your agreement** and are **caught by what you said**—

³ **follow my advice and save yourself**, for you have placed yourself at **your friend's mercy**.

Now **swallow your pride**; **go and beg** to have your name erased.

⁴ **Do not put it off; do it now! Do not rest until you do!**

Save yourself like a gazelle escaping from a hunter, like a bird fleeing from a net!

6 **Take a lesson** from the ants, you 'lazybones', you sluggard! **Learn** from their ways and **become wise!**

⁷ Though the ants have no prince or governor or ruler to make them work, ⁸ they labor hard all summer, gathering food for the winter. ⁹ But you, 'lazybones', *how long will you sleep? When will you wake up?* ¹⁰ A little extra sleep, a little more slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest—

¹¹ then poverty will pounce on you like a bandit; scarcity will attack you like an armed robber.

12 **What are worthless and wicked people like?**

Worthless and wicked people are constant liars, ¹³ **signaling their deceit** with a wink of the eye, a nudge of the foot, or the wiggle of fingers. ¹⁴ **Their perverted hearts plot evil**, and they **constantly stir up trouble**.

¹⁵ **But they will be destroyed suddenly**, broken in an instant beyond all hope of healing.

16 **There are six things the LORD hates**— no, seven things **the LORD detests**:

¹⁷ **haughty eyes**, a lying **tongue**, **hands** that kill the innocent, ¹⁸ a **heart** that plots evil, **feet** that race to do wrong, ¹⁹ a **false witness** who pours out lies, **a person who sows discord** in a family.

20 My son; **Obey your father's commands**, and do not neglect your **mother's instruction**.

²¹ **Keep their words** always in your heart. **Tie them** around your neck.

²² When you **walk**, their counsel will lead you. When you **sleep**, they will protect you.

When you **wake up**, they **will advise you**.

²³ **For their command is a lamp and their instruction a light: their corrective discipline is the way to life.**

24 **Your father's commands** and your **mother's instruction** will keep you from **the immoral woman**, from the smooth tongue of **a promiscuous woman**.

²⁵ **Do not lust** for her beauty. Do not let her coy glances **seduce you**.

²⁶ For **a prostitute** will **bring you to poverty**, but **sleeping with another man's wife** will **cost you your life**.

²⁷ Can a man scoop a flame into his lap and not have his clothes catch on fire?

²⁸ Can a man walk on hot coals and not blister his feet? ²⁹ So it is with the man who **sleeps with another man's wife**. The one who embraces **another man's wife, will not go unpunished**.

³⁰ *Excuses might be found for a thief who steals because he is starving.* ³¹ *But if the thief is caught, he must pay back seven times what he stole, even if he has to sell everything in his house.*

³² But the man **who commits adultery** is an utter fool, for **he destroys himself**. ³³ He will be **wounded** and **disgraced**. His **shame will never be erased**.

³⁴ For **the woman's jealous husband will be furious**, and he will show no mercy when he takes revenge. ³⁵ **The woman's jealous husband** will accept no compensation, nor he be satisfied with a payoff of any size." Prov. 6

FOUNDATIONS: Proverbs 6

*"I have **stored up Your word** in my mind, that I might not sin **against You.**" Ps. 119: 11*

²¹ Later Peter **approached Jesus** and said, "How many times do I have to forgive my fellow believer who keeps offending me? Seven times in one day?"

²² **Jesus answered**, "Not seven times, Peter, but **seventy times seven times** (an attitude of **endless forgiveness**). Matt. 18: 21 – 22

"We wanted to provide you an example to follow. I, Paul, worked to pay for my food and rent while I preached the gospel, taught, and ministered to you in Thessalonica. ¹⁰ When we were with you, we instructed you with these words: "Anyone believer who does not want to work for a living should go hungry."

¹¹ Now, we hear rumors that some of you are being lazy and neglecting to work to support yourselves; instead, you are living from the gifts of others! *This is wrong on so many levels!* These people are not busy, but busybodies!" 2 Thess. 3: 9 - 11

"You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. ² For people will **love only themselves and their money**. They will be **boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient** to their parents, and **ungrateful**. They will **consider nothing sacred**. ³ They will be **unloving and unforgiving**; they will **slander others** and have **no self-control**. They will be **cruel and hate** what is good. ⁴ They will **betray their friends**, be **reckless**, be **puffed up with pride**, and **love pleasure rather than God**. ⁵ They will **act religious**, but they will **reject the power that could make them godly**. Stay away from people like that!" 2 Tim. 3: 1 - 5

¹⁹ When you follow **the desires of your sinful nature**, the results are very clear: **sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, idol worship, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these**. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that *anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.*" Gal. 5: 19 -20

⁴ "Listen, O Israel! **The LORD is our God, the LORD alone, the only One.**

⁵ And you must love **the LORD your God** with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength.

⁶ And you must **commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands of God** that I am giving you today.

⁷ **Repeat these commands of God** again and again **to your children**.

Talk about these commands of God when you are **at home** and when you are **on the road**, when you are **going to bed** and when you are **getting up**.

⁸ **Tie them** to your hands' [**let your work show** that you follow **God's commands**] and **'wear them** on your forehead' [**direct your thoughts to remember and meditate on God's commands**] as reminders to yourselves.

⁹ **Write them on the doorposts** of your house and **on your gates.**" Deut. 6: 4 – 9



*¹ "But you have prostituted yourself with many lovers, so why are you trying to come **back to Me?**" says **the LORD**.*

*² Look at the shrines on every hilltop. Is there any place you, Judah, have not been defiled by your **adultery** with other gods? You sit like a prostitute beside the road waiting for a customer. You sit alone like a nomad in the desert. You have polluted the land with your prostitution and your wickedness."*

Jer. 3: 2