### Proverbs

## Chapter 6

1O son,  
  
When you co-sign a loan for a friend,  
 You’ve put yourself in your enemy’s hands.  
 2From your own lips you’ve been captured and snared…  
 By words that came from your own mouth.  
  
3O son,  
  
Save yourself by heeding my words.  
 For, if you choose to do such a thing,  
 Into evil hands, you’ll fall.  
  
Don’t leave yourself [in such a position];  
 For you’ll find that you’ll even anger your friend…  
 The one for whom you co-signed the loan!  
  
4So, don’t let your eyes go to sleep  
 5Or allow your eyelids to slumber,  
 Before you’ve escaped like a doe from a noose,  
 And as wild fowl from a snare.  
  
6Lazy one; You should learn from the ant…  
 Feel zeal when you see what he does.  
 Yes, you should become just like him…  
 But, you should also be wiser!  
  
7For he doesn’t own his own farm,  
 And he has no one to urge him to work,  
 Nor is he under a master.  
 8But, during the summer, he gathers much food,  
 As he prepares to feast in the harvest.  
  
9O lazy one,  
  
How much longer will you continue to lie there…  
 Yes, when will you awaken from sleep?  
 10You sit for a while, then rest for a while,  
 And after a while, you slumber  
 With your hands and arms on your chest,  
 11As poverty overtakes you like a mugger,  
 And lack catches you like a sprinter.  
  
12A man (a fool and lawbreaker)  
 Will travel in ways that are evil.  
 13He beckons with his eyes,  
 Makes signs with his feet,  
 And teaches with the motions of his fingers.  
  
14He plans to do bad, since his heart is perverse,  
 And he brings disturbance into his own city.  
 15But because of this, his death will come soon…  
 He’ll be cut off and not be brought back,  
 16Since he rejoices over things that God hates.  
  
He will be destroyed, since his life is unclean…  
 17Because his eyes are insulting…  
 Because his tongue is unrighteous…  
 Because his hands have shed righteous blood…  
 18Because his heart conspires to do bad  
 And his feet have run to do evil.  
  
19When [a man] tells a lie [in a courtroom],  
 This unrighteous witness lights fires,  
 And between even brothers, brings lawsuits.  
  
20O son,  
  
Guard the laws of your father,  
 And don’t cast aside the rules of your mother!  
 21Fasten them tight to your soul…  
 Tie them around your neck with a cord!  
  
22Bring them along wherever you walk,  
 And make sure they’re always nearby.  
 When you sleep, you should let them keep watch,  
 And have them remind you when you arise.  
  
23For the Law’s Commandments are a lamp and a light…  
 They’re a complete way of life!  
 They’re correction and instruction to guard you  
 24From bad women who are already married,  
 And from the distractions that come from strange tongues.  
  
25Don’t let their beauty entice you…  
 Don’t get trapped by the things you can see,  
 Or be beguiled by their eyes.  
 26For, less than bread is the value of a whore,  
 And a woman of men ensnares precious lives.  
  
27Can a man light a fire upon his own chest  
 Without it burning his clothes?  
 28Can someone walk on live coals  
 Without them consuming his feet?  
  
29For, when you [have sex with] another man’s wife,  
 That’s what will happen to you,  
 Since none that touch her are found free from guilt.  
  
30It’s no surprise when someone’s caught stealing,  
 For, to fill a hungry soul, men will steal.  
 31Then, when they’re caught, 7 times they’ll repay…  
 They’ll give all they own to be saved.  
  
32But by the lack of good sense,  
 The man who’s committing adultery,  
 Upon himself, brings destruction.  
 33For he suffers both grief and dishonor,  
 And his scorn won’t be forgotten  
 Throughout the rest of the age.  
  
34Because of the jealous rage of her man,  
 He won’t be spared in the day that he’s judged.  
 35And because of the hate of this person,  
 He’ll not be able to bargain,  
 Nor will many gifts buy his freedom.