

Taker or Producer?

Prov 1.10 My son, if sinners entice you, Do not consent. 11 If they say, "Come with us, Let us lie in wait to shed blood; Let us lurk secretly for the innocent without cause; 12 Let us swallow them alive like Sheol, And whole, like those who go down to the Pit; 13 We shall find all kinds of precious possessions, We shall fill our houses with spoil; 14 Cast in your lot among us, Let us all have one purse" – 15 My son, do not walk in the way with them, Keep your foot from their path; 16 For their feet run to evil, And they make haste to shed blood. 17 Surely, in vain the net is spread In the sight of any bird; 18 But they lie in wait for their own blood, They lurk secretly for their own lives. 19 So are the ways of everyone who is greedy for gain; It takes away the life of its owners.

* What makes a temptation tempting?

* What are the strongest temptations?

* How do temptations differ between boys and girls, and what is one basic difference?

* Who does Proverbs speak to directly? How does it end up speaking to boys and girls?

* Is it bad to have desires and to want to be fulfilled and happy? If not, where does the problem come in?

* What are the first nine chapters of Proverbs? What is Solomon doing there?

* What is the first temptation Solomon addresses? What is the “full flower” version?

* Why would this ever be a temptation to young men?

* What kind of masculinity does this represent?

* What is the root of the flower?

* What is the essence of greed?

* What are some contrasts between false masculinity and true masculinity?

* What does Solomon warn is the outcome of greed?

* What are some things young men must learn in order to be biblically masculine?

* Homework

- Read: Proverbs 6.6-11; 18.9.
- Ponder
 - What qualities does Solomon want you to learn from the ant?
 - What is the connection between the sluggard and the destroyer? How are they alike?