Dietrich Bonhoeffer:
“I have discovered that what seems so alluring, so mesmerizing, in the secrecy of the imagination is revealed for what it truly is when it is confessed to another. Temptation flourishes in the dark, but it withers and dies when it is brought into the light of accountability.”

A five-fold objective of today’s message:

1. To encourage you and your spouse to fall deeply in love with God and each other
2. To keep someone from destroying their marriage, family, and especially their children
3. To keep you in your marriage bed at night
4. To get you out of the bed that is not your marriage bed
5. To give someone hope that their marriage can be “better than ever” if they obey the principles of God’s Word about marriage

Early warning signs of sexual sin:

1. A growing fascination with someone other than your spouse
2. A heightened sense of anticipation when you have an opportunity to be with someone of the opposite sex
3. A strong desire to confide in someone of the opposite sex
4. An increased sense of responsibility for her or his happiness
5. Emotional distancing from your spouse

Takeaway:
No man or woman can pretend that it is only “bad” people who have committed sexual sins. Evidence to the contrary is too compelling. I have concluded that neither man nor woman can live in our sexually saturated society and escape sexual temptation. Make no mistake about it; temptation is not a sin, only yielding to temptation is. However, every man and women must prepare themselves to be equipped to overcome it. If you are battling with a secret sin, you know how easy it is to become discouraged. Therefore, it is imperative that you become accountable to another brother or sister immediately.

I. Proverbs Warns Us About Immorality

* Proverbs 2:16-19 (NKJV) To deliver you from the immoral woman, from the seductress who flatters with her words, 17 Who forsakes the companion of her youth, and forgets the covenant of her God. 18 For her house leads down to death, and her paths to the dead; 19 None who go to her return, nor do they regain the paths of life.*
II. Proverbs Unfolds a Vivid Drama of Seduction

Five painful words:
Proverbs 7:21a (NKJV) ...she caused him to yield...

III. Proverbs Paints a Painful Picture of Immorality

Proverbs 2:18 (NKJV) For her house leads down to death, and her paths to the dead.

Proverbs 5:4 (NKJV) But in the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword.

Proverbs 5:5 (NKJV) Her feet go down to death, her steps lay hold of hell.

Proverbs 5:22 (NKJV) His own iniquities entrap the wicked man, and he is caught in the cords of his sin.

Proverbs 6:27 (NKJV) Can a man take fire to his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?

Proverbs 6:28 (NKJV) Can one walk on hot coals, and his feet not be seared?

Proverbs 6:33 (NKJV) Wounds and dishonor he will get, and his reproach will not be wiped away.

Proverbs 7:22-23 (NKJV) Immediately he went after her, as an ox goes to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks. Till an arrow struck his liver. As a bird hastens to the snare, He did not know it would cost his life.

Proverbs 7:26 (NKJV) For she has cast down many wounded, and all who were slain by her were strong men.

Proverbs 7:27 (NKJV) Her house is the way to hell, descending to the chambers of death.

IV. Proverbs Lists Painful Repercussions of Immorality

1. Emotional pain
2. Financial pain
3. Social pain

V. Proverbs Shows Us How to Prevent Immorality

1. Respond to the warning of God's Word
2. Reject a haughty and prideful spirit
3. Resolve to guard your heart against all sexual sin