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Wisdom from Proverbs **4 Corners Church**
King Killers: A Wise Word to Men **November 1, 2026**

Men, Marriage, and Family Are Under Spiritual Attack
Proverbs 31:1 *The words of King Lemuel. An oracle that his mother taught him:*

I. The Warning Against Sexual Misconduct & Toxic Relationships

Proverbs 31:2-3 *What are you doing, my son? What are you doing, son of my womb? What are you doing, son of my vows? Do not give your strength to women, your ways to those who destroy kings.*

- **The Urgency:** The repetition of "What are you doing?" shows a mother seeing her son on the precipice of standard male pitfalls.
- **Squandering Strength:** Foolish men give away their biological, emotional, and spiritual "strength" to bad relationships.
- **The "King-Killer":** Historically, what takes down great leaders, politicians, athletes, and pastors is sexual immorality.
    - Guard your eyes, guard your focus, and don't let temporary physical desires sabotage your long-term legacy and calling.

II. The Danger of Intoxication & Disqualified Leadership
Proverbs 31:4–7 *It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine, or for rulers to take strong drink, lest they drink and forget what has been decreed and pervert the rights of all the afflicted. Give strong drink to the one who is perishing, and wine to those in bitter distress; let them drink and forget their poverty and remember their misery no more.*

- **Higher Standards for Rulers:** Total abstinence isn't universally commanded for every individual in Scripture; strict self-control or abstinence is required for those in authority.
- **The Danger of Escape:** Rulers use alcohol or substances to numb the stress of leadership. This is an abdication of duty. If your brain is fogged, you cannot remember the law or make righteous decisions.

- **Perverted Justice:** When a leader is compromised by substances, the vulnerable pay the price. Intoxication causes leaders to look inward rather than looking out for those they serve.
- **The Proper Use of Strong Drink:** The text humorously and pragmatically says to give beer to those who are perishing or in bitter distress (palliative/medicinal use). If you are using substances to mask deep emotional pain or exhaustion, you are acting like a dying man, not a reigning king.

III. The Mandate of a True Leader: Defending the Weak

Proverbs 31:8-9 *Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute. Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.*

- **The Voice for the Voiceless:** True biblical masculinity and leadership are inherently protective. If someone cannot speak for themselves (the "mute" due to lack of power, status, or resources), the leader must speak for them.

- **Active vs. Passive:** The text demands that leaders "Open your mouth" and "Defend." These are active, aggressive verbs requiring moral courage.

- **Righteous Judgment:** A godly leader does not cave to culture or show partiality to the wealthy or powerful. They use their position as a shield for the poor and needy.

Summary Checklist for a Godly Leader

- **Self-Mastery:** Are you controlling your physical appetites, or are they controlling you?
- **Mental Clarity**: Are you sober-minded enough to make major life choices and lead others?
- **Protective Action:** Who are you currently protecting, serving, and defending with your strength?

Apply Wisdom, Take Responsibility

- **Vote:** If Christians sit out of the process of choosing leaders and influencing policies, then non-Christians and non-Christian thinking will control the direction of the government and impact the country negatively for generations.
- **Lead Spiritually:** Become the one pushing the family toward faithful church engagement, prayer, giving, and serving.
- **Sing:** Actively worship Jesus; let go of image management and express through corporate singing your commitment to the Lord.