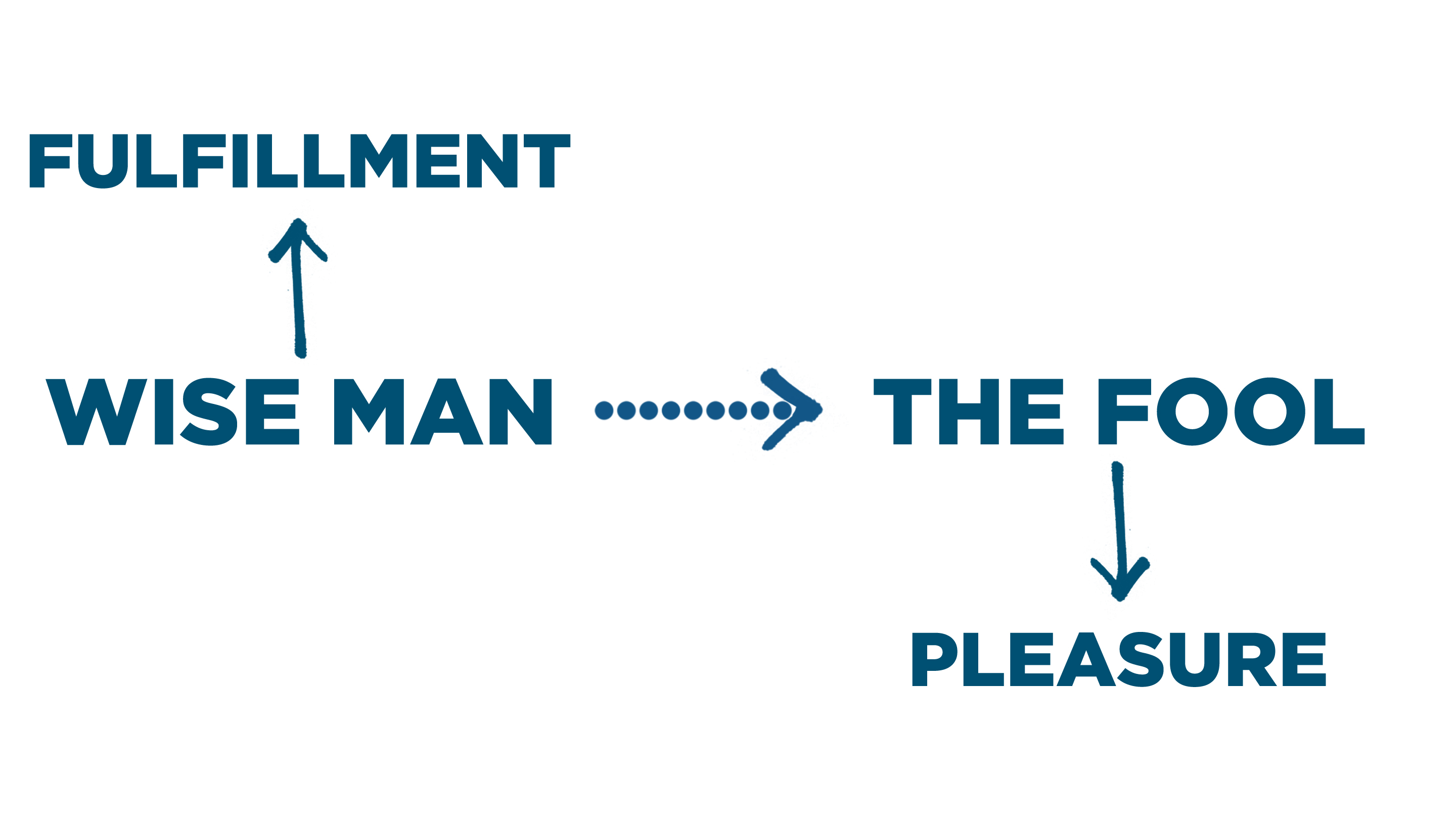
Wisdom and Marriage | Proverbs 5:15-23 | Pastor Keith Thompson | March 26, 2017

**Sermon Notes**

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**Marks of a wise spouse:**

1. **Wise people wise spouses (5:15-17).**
2. **Wise people in their spouses (5:18).**
3. **Wise people their spouses (5:19).**
4. **Wise people to their spouses (5:20-23).**

**Journey Group Notes**

Humans are designed by God for marriage and for sexual fulfillment in marriage. Read and reflect upon the life-coaching from Proverbs 5:15-23, and answer the following questions.

1. Describe the difference between pursuing fulfillment (the wise person) and pursing pleasure (the foolish person) in marriage.
2. What problems exist with a worldview that devalues or postpones marriage?’
3. Wise people *invest* in their spouses (Proverbs 5:18), striving to develop healthy, God-honoring marriages, through which they and their spouses can find fulfillment.
   1. Read Ephesians 5:33. Why did God specifically command husbands to love their wives and wives to respect their husbands?
   2. In what ways do love and respect contribute to the health and stability of a marriage over time?
   3. If you are married, what are two or more specific ways that you can more intentionally invest in your spouse this week?
4. Wise people *enjoy* their spouses (Proverbs 5:19), focusing their emotional and sexual affections upon their spouse to find fulfillment in their marriage.
   1. If God created human sexuality to be enjoyed in the context of marriage, why is physical intimacy the source of so much conflict in many marriages?
   2. How does the biblical emphasis upon fulfillment and contentment help us overcome those struggles?
   3. How does sexual immorality (pursuing sexual pleasure outside of marriage) erode intimacy in marriage and ultimately destroy the marriage relationship?
   4. What are two ways that you can enjoy your spouse this week and find greater fulfillment in your marriage?
5. When our priorities get misplaced, our marriages begin to suffer and we begin to drift away from the fulfillment that comes from a Christ-centered life. Consider the biblical hierarchy of priorities (1. God,   
   2. Spouse, 3. Family, 4. Career, etc.).
   1. In what ways are you successfully maintaining these priorities?
   2. In what ways have your priorities gotten out of order and need to be realigned for you and your family to begin to experience biblical fulfillment again?