

## The Prom

“Can a man take fire to his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?” (Proverbs 6:27). **Prom time is drawing near.** Maintaining sexual purity is a challenge for those who will to be godly. “Keep thyself pure” is simple and direct language, but Satan uses many schemes and ruses to thwart it in the lives of people – especially in youth. Youth is a time of strong physical desires and great inexperience in handling aright newfound desires and personal responsibility. Parents should guide their teenagers through those troubled waters, and certainly should not promote and encourage situations that are a real threat to the moral and spiritual well-being of young people. Yet many parents delight in the **prom** as a major high school event for their sons and daughters.

The **prom is a formal dance** during which the young men and women embrace one another closely and move to rhythmic music. To deny its overt sexual nature is folly. The young women are often dressed in formal attire that accentuates their sexual desirability, and naive mothers delight in what they see. Can a young man take fire to his bosom and not be burned by that embrace? Where are the responsible fathers in this scene? It is difficult for a young man to keep his thoughts from straying into forbidden paths, even in the most wholesome atmosphere; yet God’s word urges pure thoughts (Philippians 4:8) and conduct of life toward the opposite sex “with all purity” (1 Timothy 5:2). **Alcoholic drinks** and **no set time to be home** are many times an established tradition added to the already seductive atmosphere of the “highlight of the senior year.” Both the “lows” and the “highs” of the occasion are opposed to godliness and holiness, “without which no man shall see the Lord” (Hebrews 12:14-16).

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