

**“The Power of words”**  
**Proverbs Pt. 2. 18:21 - GN. 2/19/23.**



**Proverbs 18:21**

<sup>21</sup> *Death and life are in the power of the tongue,  
and those who love it will eat its fruits.*

**The word of God calls us to be careful with the way we use our words**

**James 1:26**

<sup>26</sup> *If you claim to be religious but don't control your tongue,  
you are fooling yourself, and your religion is worthless*

**But we are not perfect:**

**James 3.**

<sup>2</sup> *Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues,  
we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way.*

**The tongue is so powerful that if we can control it, then you can probably control every aspect of our life**

**James illustrates the power of our words:**

<sup>3</sup> *When we put bites into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal.*

<sup>4</sup> *Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go.*

<sup>5</sup> *Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts.*

*Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark.*

<sup>6</sup> *The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body.*

*It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.*

<sup>7</sup> *All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind,*

<sup>8</sup> *but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.*

<sup>9</sup> *With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness.*

<sup>10</sup> *Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.*

**“A wise way to live is being careful with your words”**

**So let me give you three aspects of being careful with our words**

**I. \_\_\_\_\_ we speak matters.**

**It's important to say the right thing!!!**

**Proverbs 21:23**

<sup>23</sup> *He who guards his mouth and his tongue,  
Guards his soul from troubles.*

**Proverbs 12:18**

<sup>18</sup> *There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword,  
But the tongue of the wise brings healing.*

## II. \_\_\_\_\_ we speak matters.

Prov. 15

<sup>1</sup> *A gentle answer turns away wrath,  
but a harsh word stirs up anger.*

<sup>2</sup> *The tongue of the wise adorns knowledge,*

<sup>4</sup> *The soothing tongue is a tree of life,  
but a perverse tongue crushes the spirit.*

<sup>28</sup> *The heart of the righteous weighs its answers,  
but the mouth of the wicked gushes evil.*

Here is what each of these verses have in common, they speak to the attitude of my words  
not the content of my words

Paul speaks to this issue in the NT.

Colossians 4:6

<sup>6</sup> *Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.*

Ephesians 4:15

*speaking the truth in love*

I Must ask God for the right words, "WHAT TO SAY"  
I Must ask God for the right Heart, "HOW TO SAY"

## III. \_\_\_\_\_ we speak Matters.

proverbs 15:23

*"a man has joy in an apt answer and how delightful is a timely word" a say*

proverbs 25:11.

*"like apples of gold in settings of silver, is a word spoken in right circumstance"*

If you have used the wrong words, the wrong way or at the wrong time,

It is time to ask for forgiveness

Proverbs 6:2-3

<sup>2</sup> *If you have been snared with the words of your mouth, Have been caught with the words of your mouth,*

<sup>3</sup> *Do this then, my son, and deliver yourself;*

Things to take home:

- If you want to live a good life you must learn to control your words

**1 Peter 3:10**

<sup>10</sup> *For, "Whoever would love life and see good days  
must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech.*

- Your words reveal your heart Luke 6:45

<sup>45</sup> *The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.*

- You will respond to God for every unnecessary word you say. You will be judged by your words.

Matthew 12:36-37

<sup>36</sup> *I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, <sup>37</sup> for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."*

Proverbs 18:21

<sup>21</sup> *Death and life are in the power of the tongue,*