

THE SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE WORDS WE SPEAK

Outline – April 18th, 2021

INTRODUCTION

There is a Biblical Kingdom principle that says our words have significant impact, can bring life or death in our lives and the lives of those around us. What we say is important.

GENERAL THOUGHTS and SCRIPTURES

Psalms 34:11–13 - Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Who is the man who desires life, and loves a long life in order to see good? Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit.

-The fear of the Lord begins with the control of the tongue. The fear of the Lord should remove deceit (dishonesty, deception, manipulation) and evil from our mouths.

Proverbs 13:3 - He who guards his mouth preserves his life, but he who opens wide his lips will have destruction.

-Guarding the mouth is not defending what is entering the mouth, but what is exiting. Watching what comes out of our mouth is a way to preserve our life.

Proverbs 15:1 - A soft answer turns away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger.

Proverbs 15:2 - The tongue of the wise uses knowledge aright, but the mouth of fools pours out foolishness.

-Wisdom is demonstrated in knowing when to speak, and when to be silent; what to speak, and what to be left unspoken. Wisdom is recognizing the situation, and circumstances involved, the people involved and judging accordingly the words to use or not use.

Not every conversation needs to be engaged. Not every error needs to be corrected.

“Wise” counsel, even truth can be given out unwisely.

Proverbs 15:4 - A wholesome tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it crushes the spirit.

-Wholesome tongue is compared/described as a Tree of life and promotes life in both speaker and hearer. Perverseness (false or corrupt talk) wounds and crushes the spirit, both of the speaker and hearers.

Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

-The tongue determines death and life. We eat the fruit of our own tongue.

Matthew 12:33-37 - "Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree corrupt and its fruit corrupt. For the tree is known by its fruit. O generation of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things. And an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. But I say to you that for every idle word that men speak, they will give an account on the Day of Judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

-What comes out of your mouth reveals what is in our heart.

Colossians 4:6 - Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you should answer everyone.

-Our speech should create in others appetite for what we have.

James 3:2-10 - We all err in many ways. But if any man does not err in word, he is a perfect man and able also to control the whole body. See how we put bits in the mouths of horses that they may obey us, and we control their whole bodies. And observe ships. Though they are so great and are driven by fierce winds, yet they are directed with a very small rudder wherever the captain pleases. Even so, the tongue is a little part of the body and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles. The tongue is a fire, a world of evil. The tongue is among the parts of the body, defiling the whole body, and setting the course of nature on fire, and it is set on fire by hell. All kinds of beasts, and birds, and serpents, and things in the sea are tamed or have been tamed by mankind. But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who are made in the image of God. Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

-Our words set a foundation for our lives, and we live within the boundaries that we create with our own words.

Words transmit. The words that you speak transmit faith or fear. When you confess doubt, you are imprisoned with your own words. **Proverbs 6:2 you are snared with the words of your mouth; you are taken** (*trapped, frozen, put in a pit*) **with the words of your mouth.**

Proverbs 16:24 - Pleasant words are as a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and health to the bones.

SPECIFIC PROBLEMS

A. Excessive talking

Proverbs 10:19 - In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise. Excessive talking often leads to sin and folly.

B. Idle words

Matthew 12:36 - But I say to you that for every idle word that men speak, they will give an account on the Day of Judgment.

-Words which are not good to building up are IDLE (empty, or unprofitable) words.

Matthew 5:37 - But I say to you that for every idle word that men speak, they will give an account on the Day of Judgment.

C. Gossip

Casual conversation or reports about other people, typically including details that are not confirmed as being true.

Leviticus 19:16 - You shall not go around as a slanderer (*character assassin*) among your people, nor shall you stand by while the life of your neighbor is in danger: I am the Lord.

1 Timothy 5:13 - Besides that, they learn to be idle, and not only idle, wandering around from house to house, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they ought not.

1 Peter 4:15- Let none of you suffer as a murderer, or a thief, or an evildoer, or even as a busybody.

D. Lying

Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are abomination (*disgrace, outrage, repulsive*) to the Lord, but those who deal truly are His delight.

John 8:44 - You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

-Traced to its source, every lie comes from the devil.

E. Flattery

Praising someone for things that are not true.

Proverbs 26:28 - A lying tongue hates those who are afflicted by it, and a flattering mouth works ruin.

-Flattery is along the same lines as lying.

Proverbs 29:5 - A lying tongue hates those who are afflicted by it, and a flattering mouth works ruin.

-Beware of a flatterer; he flatters to deceive you and profit himself.

F. Hastiness (Impulsiveness)

Talking without Thinking. Talking quickly. Responding Quickly.

Proverbs 29:20 - Do you see a man who is hasty in his words? There is more hope for a fool than for him.

-Impulsive speech is more harmful than foolishness.

Psalm 106:33 - because they provoked his temper, so that he spoke impulsively with his lips.

-A provoked (angered) spirit results in impulsive/rash words.

G. Negative (Faithless) Talk

Number 13:30–31 - Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, “Let us go up at once and possess it, for we are able to overcome it.” But the men that went up with him said, “We are not able to go up against the people because they are stronger than we.”

-Negative speaking denies the power of God and costs us our inheritance. Words of defeat, fear, and complaint are deadly. Our words should always be filled with faith, and they should minister grace to the one hearing.

Speaking The Truth But Not In Love

Ephesians 4:15 - But, speaking the truth in love, we may grow up in all things into Him, who is the head, Christ Himself,

-Truth must be spoken in love. Truth not spoken in love has very little positive or productive impact.

-Be careful with things like sarcasm, mocking or flippant attitudes or words.

-Speak respectfully with one another. (Not talking down to someone)

-Not focussing on being right.

-Sometimes it is better to be silent than to be right.

THE SOLUTION

Address the Problem

Matthew 12:33–34

-Recognize what is coming from our mouth is directly related to what is in our heart.

Proverbs 4:23 - Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life.

-What we feed our heart, lives is very important.

1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

-Confess, receive forgiveness and cleansing.

Romans 6:12–13 - Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. Do not yield your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but yield yourselves to God, as those who are alive from the dead, and your bodies to God as instruments of righteousness.

-Refuse sin, yield to God.

Speak God's Word In Our Lives and Situations

Joshua 1:8 This Book of the Law must not depart from your mouth. Meditate on it day and night so that you may act carefully according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way successful, and you will be wise.

-God's Word is the expression of His will and desires. His words to us are spirit and life, transforming us and changing us, that bring is in line with what He says and wants to do within our lives.

Praise and Thank God Continually

Psalm 34:1–3 - I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise will continually be in my mouth. My soul will make its boast in the Lord; the humble will hear of it and be glad. Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.

-Praise God in all circumstances. Use our mouths and words to exalt Him.

Psalm 35:28 - My tongue will speak of Your righteousness and of Your praise all the day long.

Recognize Christ as the High Priest of Your Confession

Hebrews 3:1 - Therefore, holy brothers, partakers in a heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Jesus Christ,

Remember the Holy Spirit is help us in all things.