

# Words: The Power of Life and Death

Part 13 in Proverbs: Wisdom is Calling Series  
Noah Largent 8/30/20



*Prov. 18:21 The tongue has the **power** of **life** and **death**.*

Examples: Martin Luther King Jr. "I Have a Dream" speech.  
Hitler's book, "Mein Kampf".

## 1. Words: They are a gift-

Think about all the gifts God has given us, among the best is the ability to use words to communicate with God and others! We do it so often that it's easy to forget how good it is and how much power there is in it. Like all the other tools that God has gifted us with, we need to use them wisely.

1 Peter 4:10-11 Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as *faithful stewards* of God's grace in its various forms.  
*11 If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God.*

## 2. Words: They Can Be Life-Giving-

### **OF GREAT VALUE WHEN USED TO ENCOURAGE AND INSPIRE**

*Prov. 10:20-21* The tongue of the righteous is choice silver... <sup>21</sup> The lips of the righteous nourish many.

*Prov. 15:4* The soothing tongue is a tree of life

*Prov. 16:24* Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones

### **FRIENDS USE THEM FOR ACCOUNTABILITY**

*Prov. 24:26* An honest answer is like a kiss on the lips.

*Prov. 25:12* Like an earring of gold or an ornament of fine gold is a wise man's rebuke to a listening ear.

*Prov. 27:5-6* Better is open rebuke than hidden love. <sup>6</sup> Wounds from a friend can be trusted.

## 3. Words: They Can Be Destructive-

### **THEY CAN RUIN RELATIONSHIPS**

*Prov. 16:28* A perverse person stirs up conflict, and a gossip separates close friends.

*Prov. 12:18* The words of the reckless pierce like swords

*Prov. 15:1* a harsh word stirs up anger.

### **GOD HATES DECEPTION**

*Prov. 6:16-17&19* There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to him: <sup>17</sup>...a lying tongue...<sup>19</sup> a false witness who pours out lies.

*Prov. 19:5 (&9)* A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who pours out lies will not go free.

*John 8:44* You belong to your father, the devil....there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

### **ADVICE ON HOW TO AVOID DESTRUCTION**

*Prov. 10:19* When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise.

*Prov. 15:1* A gentle answer turns away wrath

*James 1:19* My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen

**Keep in Mind #1:** We all fall short - it is part of being human. However, when we confess, God's love and grace and forgiveness remain constant (1 John 1:9)!

**Keep in Mind #2:** God has called us to be his ambassadors in the world (2Cor 5:16-20) that means that we are demonstrating what it means to know God and love him but in action and speech. Our words are not only as a benefit to others but it's also a primary or we honor God and worship him every single day!

### **Sign-Up emails:**

Women's Fall Study - email Julie: [julie@sierra.church](mailto:julie@sierra.church)

Community Groups - email Kim: [kymvr@hotmail.com](mailto:kymvr@hotmail.com)

Love and Respect - email Dan: [dan@mooredirection.com](mailto:dan@mooredirection.com)

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