

Life-Giving Words  
Proverbs 10:11  
Jason Finley, Discipleship Pastor  
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Proverbs 10:11 **The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life,  
but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.**

**The wise overflow with life-giving words.**

**Our words are a serious subject:**

- **Prevalence of our words**

Proverbs 10:10 **Whoever winks the eye causes trouble,**

- **Power of our words**

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

Matthew 12:36 **I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for  
every careless word they speak**

## **I. Traits of life-giving words**

### **A. True**

Proverbs 12:22 **Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who  
act faithfully are his delight.**

Ephesians 4:15 **Rather, speaking the truth in love,**

Proverbs 26:18-19 <sup>18</sup>Like a madman who throws firebrands, arrows, and  
death <sup>19</sup>is the man who deceives his neighbor and says, "I am only  
joking!"

### **B. Upbuilding**

Proverbs 10:20 **The tongue of the righteous is choice silver; the heart of  
the wicked is of little worth.**

Ephesians 4:29 **Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only  
such as is good for building up.**

### **C. Few**

Proverbs 10:19 When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.

Proverbs 20:19 A gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid a man who talks too much. (NIV)

#### **D. Gentle**

Proverbs 15:1 A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

#### **E. Timely**

Proverbs 15:23 To make an apt answer is a joy to a man, and a word in season, how good it is!

Ephesians 4:29 Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

### **II. The source of life-giving words: the heart**

Proverbs 10:11 The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.

Proverbs 10:20 The tongue of the righteous is choice silver; the heart of the wicked is of little worth.

Matthew 12:34-35 For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. <sup>35</sup> The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil.

### **III. Cultivating life-giving words**

#### **A. Grace**

Proverbs 2:6 For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;

#### **B. Study**

Proverbs 15:28 The heart of the righteous ponders how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things.

#### **C. Integrity**

Proverbs 11:3 The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them.