

SHADE-TREE WISDOM:
THE THERMOMETER OF THE HEART:

Prov. 10:18-21

I. INTRO:

Notes:

II. Don't hide _____ behind a _____ Prov. 10:18a

**Truth Counsel 1: If your _____ is wrong, fix the heart before you
_____ the mouth.**

**III. If you _____ about others, sin _____ about you
Prov. 10:18b**

Slander is _____ with the _____

**Truth Counsel 2: If the person you're talking about isn't in the room...make sure you're
_____ their reputation, not draining it.**

IV. Talk _____ and _____ more Prov. 10:19

Men sin in talking _____

Women sin in talking _____

**Truth Counsel 3: You will almost never regret what you didn't say, but you will often
_____ sleep over the words you said too _____.**

**V. A _____ tongue leaves people stronger, not _____
Prov. 10:20-21**

Good words are like choice silver, _____, refined and worth keeping

Let your words _____ others.

Truth Counsel 4: Leave people _____ than you found them.

Carry this home:

Men:

- Where does your speech show pride? Sarcasm? Harshness?
- How can your voice in the home better feed your family?

Women:

- Where do you struggle with resentment disguised as kindness?
- How can your speech build unity among other women?

All:

- Identify one relationship where your tongue needs repentance and repair this week
- Pray Psalm 141:3 "Set a guard, Oh Lord, over my mouth."

QUESTIONS:

1. Am I honest—or do I hide my true heart behind polite deceit?
2. Do my words defend people—or destroy them?
3. Do I restrain my speech—or do I let my mouth run wild?
4. Do my words feed others spiritual life—or drain them?

Proverbs 10:18–21

[18] The one who conceals hatred has lying lips, and whoever utters slander is a fool.
[19] When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.
[20] The tongue of the righteous is choice silver; the heart of the wicked is of little worth.
[21] The lips of the righteous feed many, but fools die for lack of sense.

Ephesians 4:29–32

[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. [30] And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. [31] Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. [32] Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

James 3:1–10

[1] Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. [2] For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. [3] If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. [4] Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. [5] So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! [6] And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. [7] For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, [8] but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. [9] With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. [10] From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

2 Samuel 20:9–10

[9] And Joab said to Amasa, “Is it well with you, my brother?” And Joab took Amasa by the beard with his right hand to kiss him. [10] But Amasa did not observe the sword that was in Joab’s hand. So Joab struck him with it in the stomach and spilled his entrails to the ground without striking a second blow, and he died.

Then Joab and Abishai his brother pursued Sheba the son of Bichri.

Proverbs 26:24–26

[24] Whoever hates disguises himself with his lips and harbors deceit in his heart;

[25] when he speaks graciously, believe him not, for there are seven abominations in his heart;

[26] though his hatred be covered with deception, his wickedness will be exposed in the assembly.

Proverbs 16:28

[28] A dishonest man spreads strife, and a whisperer separates close friends.

Psalm 101:5

[5] Whoever slanders his neighbor secretly I will destroy. Whoever has a haughty look and an arrogant heart I will not endure.

1 Peter 2:1

[1] So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander.

Psalm 39:1–4

[1] I said, “I will guard my ways, that I may not sin with my tongue; I will guard my mouth with a muzzle, so long as the wicked are in my presence.”

[2] I was mute and silent; I held my peace to no avail, and my distress grew worse.

[3] My heart became hot within me. As I mused, the fire burned; then I spoke with my tongue:

[4] “O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting I am!

James 1:19

[19] Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger;

Proverbs 17:27–28

[27] Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding.

[28] Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise; when he closes his lips, he is deemed intelligent.

Isaiah 50:4

[4] The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught.

Luke 4:20–22

[20] And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. [21] And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” [22] And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?”

1 Samuel 23:16

[16] And Jonathan, Saul's son, rose and went to David at Horesh, and strengthened his hand in God.

Colossians 4:6

[6] Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Proverbs 11:30–31

[30] The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and whoever captures souls is wise.

[31] If the righteous is repaid on earth, how much more the wicked and the sinner!

Psalm 141:3

[3] Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips!