

**July 10, 2022**

**Sour Subjects: Week 1**

Question: How many have ever had an experience that just didn't sit right?

We've all had experiences in life that just don't sit well, and sometimes we're not sure what to do... OR culture has become so accepting of certain behaviors, we don't know what kind of response we should give.

TASTE is such a unique thing! What someone enjoys, another can loathe!

We have 4 primary Tastes:

- Sweet
- Savory
- Salty
- SOUR

Each one of those conjures up a Memory or Emotion.

Question: What do you think of right away when I say Salty or Sweet?

Over the next few weeks we're going to look at some topics *that have either weathered the course of time, or have been placed in the crosshairs of change*, and some that *we seem to constantly struggle to figure out*.

I would imagine that each week some of you might like the topic and some... not so much!

Week 1: What's with all the Fussin' & Cussin'? **\*\*Explicit Warning!\*\***

Church Culture has created some Taboos, I think *swearing* is one of them.

People tell me they're just WORDS.

Some people tell me it's just Farm Talk.

Some apparently speak "French" once in a while.

A lot of "Today's Generation" of Christians I believe don't necessarily hold to the same value structure that I have on these kinds of subjects. So who's right, and who's wrong?

There has been a push in modern Christian-dom to be "Authentic," tired of being told how to act, just want to be real!

And some of that is not bad... However, due to their immaturity, it can also lead to hypocrisy, and believe it or not... Some of these areas become GATEWAYS to other compromising practices!

So is the issue that we need a system to judge the words for us to use, and how do we do that?

Do we need WORD Police?

**I. Commandment 3**

Exodus 20:7

"You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain..."

**II. Believer's Conversation**

Ephesians 4:29 & 31

Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth... Let all bitterness, wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you... with all malice.

**III. Believer's Conduct**

Ephesians 5:4

Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place...

Paul's main point to the Ephesians...

We are called to live like Light, not Darkness.

We live Grace-filled lives.

He has called you out of darkness and into his glorious light!

Ephesians 5:8-10

For you were once darkness, but NOW you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord.

Question: Does the Sanctification process include our MOUTH?

Matthew 12:33-37

"Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit. You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him. But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned."

James 3:9-10

With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.