

Slow to Speak

WEEK 2- WORDS OF THE HEART - CRITICISM

BIG IDEA:

Criticism can be negative and destructive. We all hate to be criticized, but often don't realize when we are criticizing others because we often justify it through comparison.

KEY VERSE:

Galatians 4: 14-15, "For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Who/what do you tend to criticize?

Key Point #1: A Fault Finder

2. We tend to find fault in others because of pride and insecurity; which of those two issues do you tend to struggle with more? In what ways have these positions shown themselves through the way that you speak to or about others?
3. Who is someone you love to be around? Why are you drawn to this person? What part does the words they speak play in your desire to be around them?

Key Point #2: A Hope Dealer

4. Do you "overflow with hope"? Why or why not? What is holding you back from speaking words of life over the people in your life?
5. What opportunities to speak words of life are you missing?
6. Who in your life really needs to hear you speak words that will build them up?

MOVING FORWARD:

Because of who we are in Christ, we must challenge ourselves daily to be slow to speak, slow to find faults, and quick to deal hope. As a group, take some time to really think through and share what changes do you need to make in order to be a hope dealer? Who are you going to bless this week with hope?