



# Words That Cut / Words That Heal

James 4:11, 5:9, 2 Sam 15

*“Brothers and sisters, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against a brother or sister or judges them speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it.”*

Rudder on the USS *Gerald R. Ford*: 1 / \_\_\_\_th the mass of the ship!

## Ways My Tongue Needs Taming (4:11,5:9, Proverbs)

### ❶ TALKING ABOUT INSTEAD OF....

Prov 18:8 *The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles, and they go down into the inmost body.*

### ❷ SL\_\_\_\_\_R [blasphemi] =

Prov 16:28 *A dishonest person spreads strife, and ... separates close friends.*

### ❸ CARELESS or C\_\_\_\_\_L words

Prov 25:23 *As north wind brings rain, so a backbiting tongue, angry looks.*

## ABSALOM: Words That Cut (2 Sam 15)

- Poisons p\_\_\_\_\_ons 1-2
- Multiplies mis-\_\_\_\_\_ion 3-4
- Kills \_\_\_\_\_lity 5-6
- Operates in \_\_\_\_\_ion to God 7-12
- D\_\_\_\_\_s those He died for 13-23
- \_\_\_\_\_s our witness 18:4-18

*Absalom's fate teaches us that God protects his own reputation.*

## GOD'S GRACE: Words That Heal:

*But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”*

*Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips! Ps 141:3*

Prov 18:21a Death and life are in the power of the tongue.

Prov 18:8 The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles, and they go down into the inmost body.

## 2 SAMUEL 15:1 - 12

After this Absalom got himself a chariot and horses, and fifty men to run before him. <sup>2</sup>And Absalom used to rise early and stand beside the way of the gate. And when any man had a dispute to come before the king for judgment, Absalom would call to him and say, “From what city are you?” And when he said, “Your servant is of such and such a tribe in Israel,” <sup>3</sup>Absalom would say to him, “See, your claims are good and right, but there is no man designated by the king to hear you.” <sup>4</sup>Then Absalom would say, “Oh that I were judge in the land! Then every man with a dispute or cause might come to me, and I would give him justice.” <sup>5</sup>And whenever a man came near to pay homage to him, he would put out his hand and take hold of him and kiss him. <sup>6</sup>Thus Absalom did to all of Israel who came to the king for judgment. So Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.

<sup>7</sup>And at the end of four years Absalom said to the king, “Please let me go and pay my vow, which I have vowed to the LORD, in Hebron. <sup>8</sup>For your servant vowed a vow while I lived at Geshur in Aram, saying, ‘If the LORD will indeed bring me back to Jerusalem, then I will offer worship to<sup>[b]</sup> the LORD.’” <sup>9</sup>The king said to him, “Go in peace.” So he arose and went to Hebron. <sup>10</sup>But Absalom sent secret messengers throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, “As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then say, ‘Absalom is king at Hebron!’” <sup>11</sup>With Absalom went two hundred men from Jerusalem who were invited guests, and they went in their innocence and knew nothing. <sup>12</sup>And while Absalom was offering the sacrifices, he sent for<sup>[c]</sup> Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counselor, from his city Giloh. And the conspiracy grew strong, and the people with Absalom kept increasing.

### TO DIG DEEPER:

Tony Evans (videos on RightNow), [Watch Your Mouth](#), also can get a growth & study guide.

Paul David Tripp & Timothy Lane, [Relationships: A Mess Worth Making](#)

Joe Stowell: [The Weight of Your Words](#)

Brad Bigney: [Gospel Treason](#)