

THE POWER OF WORDS

July 21, 2019

I. WORDS HAVE POWER.

Proverbs 18:21 The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

- Your tongue is powerful.

A. The tongue has the power to physically move people.

B. The tongue has the power to ignite emotions.

- Our words can ignite emotion.
- Our words are powerful.

C. The tongue has the power to start wars.

D. Your tongue has the power to bring death.

Proverbs 18:21 The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

1. The tongue can kill people's self-esteem.

Proverbs 15:4 The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life, but a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.

Proverbs 15:4 (MSG) Kinds words heal and help; cutting words wound and maim.

2. The tongue kills people's dreams.

Psalms 52:2 Your tongue plots destruction; it is like a sharpened razor, you who practice deceit.

3. The tongue kills reputations.

Proverbs 15:4 (NLT) Gentle words are a tree of life; a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.

4. The tongue kills relationships.

Proverbs 18:21 (MSG) Words kill, words give life; they're either poison or fruit – you chose.

- Words kill our relationships.
- Don't say something permanently hurtful just because you are temporarily upset.

E. Your tongue has the power to bring life.

1. Your tongue can bring healing.

Proverbs 12:18 The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

- Your tongue has the power to bring healing to a broken and devastated relationship.

Proverbs 16:24 Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.

2. Your tongue can defuse anger.

Proverbs 15:1 (MSG) A gentle response defuses anger, but a sharp tongue kindles a temper fire.

- In your mouth, you have the power to stir up or calm down anger.

3. Your tongue can build others up.

Ephesians 4:29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

- With your tongue, you have the power to pull the potential out of people.
- You can bring life to people.

F. Your tongue is so powerful; it will determine the direction of your life.

- Your words have determined where you are today.

II. THREE GOD KEYS TO CONTROLLING YOUR TONGUE

1. Get Your Heart Healthy.

A. A mouth problem reveals a heart problem.

Matthew 15:18-19 But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man unclean. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, theft, false testimony, slander.

B. Whatever is in your heart will come out of your mouth.

Luke 6:45 Jesus says “the good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.

2. Learn to be Quiet.

Psalm 141:3 Set a guard over my mouth, LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips.

James 1:26 If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless.

A. Before you speak, THINK.

- T – Is it True?
- H – Is it Helpful?
- I – Is it Inspiring?
- N – Is it Necessary?
- K – Is it Kind?

3. Get God’s Help Through Prayer

Psalm 19:14 May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock, my Redeemer.