

The Good Life

Integrity & Speech

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

“14 with perverted heart devises evil, continually sowing discord; 15 therefore calamity will come upon him suddenly; in a moment he will be broken beyond healing. 16 There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him: 17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, 18 a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, 19 a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers.” Proverbs 6:14-19 (ESV)

“Does not wisdom call? Does not understanding raise her voice? 2 On the heights beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; 3 beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud: 4 “To you, O men, I call, and my cry is to the children of man. 5 O simple ones, learn prudence; O fools, learn sense.” Proverbs 8:1-5 (ESV)

“A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. 2 The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouths of fools pour out folly. 3 The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good. 4 A gentle[a] tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.” Proverbs 15:1-4 (ESV)

“11 He who loves purity of heart, and whose speech is gracious, will have the king as his friend. 12 The eyes of the Lord keep watch over knowledge, but he overthrows the words of the traitor.” Proverbs 22:11-12 (ESV)

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Start Talking: Find a conversation starter for your group. (15 Min)

- Have a few people share “two truths and a lie” - and have the rest of the group guess which ones were the lies. Ask: was it easy or hard to figure out the lie?
- What speakers, podcasts, authors, talk or radio shows are you listening to right now? What is it about them that makes them a trust worthy source?

Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking. (10 Min)

- Read Proverbs 6:14-19. What are 6 things that the Lord hates? Besides murder which one do you hate the most?
- Do words hold power? Look at Proverbs 22:11-12. What power does God give to words and to those who speak them?
- Read Proverbs 15:1-4. Why is it important to speak with gentleness?

Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness. (10 Min)

- What’s the relationship between our emotions and our words?
- How do you think the way we use our words is related to wisdom?
- Can you think of some examples of how Jesus demonstrated wisdom by how he spoke or by what He said? How can we learn from His example?
- When have you felt the Holy Spirit speak through you? What was it like?

Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week. (10 Min)

- Is there someone you need to ask forgiveness from for something you might have said?
- Commit to taking an inventory of emotions prior to speaking.

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power. (15 Min)

- Lord, it is hard to control what we say sometimes. Please forgive us when we fail. Let Your Holy Spirit guide our words as we talk to others about you. Thank you that you love us and that you always forgive us Amen!

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. (15 Min)

1. What has God been teaching you in His word this week? Is there anything you need to repent of?
2. What’s something you’d like someone else to check in with you about this week?
3. How’s your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection)
4. Pray for one another.