

# The Power of Words

The power of words was demonstrated in creation, **Genesis 1:3** “**Then God said...**” Everything God said happened - light, life, and creation - all spoken into existence through what “God said.” Even more amazing, **John 1:1-5, 14** tells us that, that “Word” was Jesus. “**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ...And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of he only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.**”

We are also told that the words we speak today still have the power of life and death in them. “**Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat of its fruit. Proverbs 18:21.** With our tongue we articulate the words that come out of our mouths. Our words affect not only the quality of our lives, who we are, and who we become in life, but our impact on others in life as well. Many words that are used pierce the very heart, minds and souls of those who hear them with poison that can kill their spirit. **Psalm 140:3** “**They sharpen their tongues as a serpent; poison of a viper is under their lips.**” Words are powerful weapons and can do a lot of damage. “You're \*#@! % stupid.” “I wish you were never born.” “No one is ever going to love you, you're so \*#@! %, fat, and ugly.” “You never get anything right.” “You're worthless.” These are mean and degrading words. Many parents and adults plant poisonous words in the minds and hearts of their children and other human beings which create scars that can last a lifetime. Humanity has a self-righteous and sinful habit of making derogatory statements such as: “He/she is a brick or two short of a full load.” “He/she is uglier than a mud fence.” “That person is as dumb as a pile of rocks!” There are many ways to verbally put another person down to make us feel better about ourselves, or that we're smarter than other people. Showing contempt for someone is murder of the heart. What we feel inside is enough to damn us to eternal hell as much as what we do on the outside! Jesus said some of our words can actually send us to hell in **Matthew 5:25** “**But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, 'You good-for-nothing,' shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, 'You fool,' shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell.**” Why is it so damning to call someone a fool? The shortest answer is found in **Psalms 14:1** “**The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, they have committed detestable acts; There is no one who does good.**” (**Psalm 53:1**) In the Bible, a fool is described as one who has rebelled against God, someone who operates either without knowing that he is accountable to God, or someone who

believes there is, in fact, no God at all. In other words, “I’m the master of my fate, and I can do whatever I want.” (See Also Romans 1:18-32, Genesis 6:5, Proverbs 18:2, 16:27-28, 26:27,10:8, 14:8, Psalms 10:4, I Corinthians 1:18-25) There are many “Fools” in this world, but Christ is the only one who truly knows the heart Hebrews 4:12-13. It is one thing for people who cannot see into a person’s heart and therefore rely on what they can see when judging another (which is what name-calling is), to call someone a fool, but quite another for God do so. God can see into your heart. It is God who knows your thoughts. Before a word leaves your tongue, God not only knows what it will be, but what it was that caused it. Thus, when God pronounces a judgment, it is based on the truth of what a person is, not just on who he/she appears to be.

You have probably heard me say, “If you say what you think, think.” Matthew 12:34-37 “For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned”.

If Christ is in our hearts shouldn't it be His Words, that come out of our mouths?

Ephesians 4:29-32 “Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear. Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.”

An evil tongue can spread poison. On the other hand, a spiritual tongue is medicine that can heal and not hurt- Proverbs 12:18; “There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword, But the tongue of the wise brings healing. (James 3:1-12)

Who's Got Your Tongue?

Gary

*Ephesians 4:15-16 “but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, that is, Christ, from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.”*