

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF YOUR WORDS

Treat Words Like They Matter

- I. Words are life or death issue-Pr18:21-Death and life are in the power of the tongue**
- A. We are to be guarded about what we say, careful with our words-Pr21:23-Whoso keepeth (guard, watch) his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles; Pr13:3-He that keeps his mouth keeps his life: but he that opens wide his lips shall have destruction; GNB-A careless talker destroys himself
- B. Many are not careful with their words because they don't believe it's life or death-EX-People well trained in firearms are careful/guarded with them
- II. Every day, in every situation, in every area of your life, every word you speak works to either help you or hurt you**
- A. There are words that hurt and words that help-Pr12:18-There is that speaks like the piercings of the sword; but the tongue of the wise is health
- B. You can speak words that hurt you and bring bad into your life-Pr18:7-A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul-ER-Fools hurt themselves when they speak. Their own words trap them-CEV-Saying foolish things is like setting a trap to destroy yourself-EX-The words of fools will ruin them-Pr10:14-The mouth of the foolish is near destruction-ER-Fools talk and bring destruction on themselves-GW-The mouth of a stubborn fool invites ruin-NL-The babbling of a fool invites disaster
- C. You can speak words that help you and bring good into your life-Pr13:2-A man shall eat (consume) good by the fruit of his mouth-CJ-A good man enjoys good as a result of what he says-Pr12:14-A man shall be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth-YL-From the fruit of the mouth is one satisfied with good-CJ-One can be filled with good as a result of one's words
- III. Knowing this we need to be careful with our words**
- A. Spare your words-Say less-Pr17:27-KJ-He that hath knowledge spares (restrain, hold back) his words-AM-Restrains and is careful with his words-CEV-It makes a lot of sense to be a person of few words-Pr10:19-In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refrains his lips is wise-VO-If you're wise you'll speak less and with restraint; CEV-You will say the wrong thing if you talk too much-so be sensible and watch what you say
- B. Be slow to speak-Js1:19-Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: Pr29:20-Seest thou a man that his hasty in his words? There is more hope of a fool than of him
- C. Be selective about what you say-Don't just say anything-Pr29:11-A fool utters all his mind: but a wise man keeps it in till afterwards-GW-Expresses all his emotions; ISV-The fool vents all his feelings, but the wise person keeps them to himself; TP-You can recognize fools by the way they give full vent to their rage and let their words fly! But the wise bite their tongues and hold back all they could say
- D. Be measured with your words-Which ones fit for this situation-Pr17:27-WYC-He that measures his words is wise; ERV-Intelligent people choose their words carefully-Pr10:19-MSG-The wise measure the words
- E. Be purposeful with your words-Speak to accomplish-Pr15:28-Heart of the righteous studies (ponders) to answer: but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things-NLt-The heart of the godly thinks carefully before speaking
- F. Be especially on guard about what you say under pressure-The power of words isn't suspended just because you're under pressure-Pr17:27-TP-Can you bridle your tongue when your heart is under pressure? That's how you show you are wise