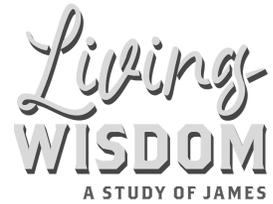


WISE WORDS PART 2

October 19-20, 2022



1. Last week in James 3:1-12, we studied the power of our tongue which can be used for good or evil. What is one way you honored God with your words this week?

What is one thing you said this week you would like to take back?

Can you identify certain times or situations which lead you to use unwise words? Please share.

2. This week we will continue to study wise words contrasted with unwise words from the book of Proverbs. First, review James 3:13,17-18. List the descriptions James uses to define wisdom.

Which one of these descriptions would you like to incorporate more in your everyday speech and why?

3. Wise words are helpful to others. Next to each group of verses from Proverbs record the way wise words can be beneficial.

Proverbs 12:25; 15:23

Proverbs 12:18; 15:4,30; 16:24

Proverbs 15:2,7; 16:21,23; 25:12

Share a time you benefitted from someone's wise words.

After considering the above proverbs, what are some practical ways you can change your words to be more helpful to others?

4. The book of Proverbs contrasts the effects of wise words with the effects of unwise words. Write next to the following proverbs the descriptions of how foolish words hurt others.

Proverbs 10:11

Proverbs 11:9,12

Proverbs 12:6,18

Proverbs 15:4

Proverbs 26:28

What does God think of lying lips? Read Proverbs 6:16-19 and 12:22.

5. After reading the following verses in Proverbs 11:13, 16:28 and 26:20, write one sentence about the danger of gossiping or whispering about others.

What does Proverbs 26:22 say about gossip? Why do you think this is true?

In what ways will these verses change your behavior and speech concerning gossip?

6. Read Proverbs 12:16 and 17:14,19 along with Proverbs 15:1. What warnings and wisdom do you find in these proverbs that you can use in your everyday words with others?

Share a time you saw a gentle answer in action.

7. The timing of our words also matters. Describe in your own words what you learn about timely words from Proverbs 10:32, 15:23 and 25:11.

What does the book of Proverbs say about untimely words in 25:20 and 27:14?

8. The phrase *silence is golden* is something to consider. Read Proverbs 10:10,19; 13:3; 17:28 and write down some of the benefits in keeping silent.

From your own experience, think of some specific situations where a few words or even silence was the wise choice.

9. Our words can be spoken as well as written in letters, emails, texts, notes or Facebook. Which medium causes you the most difficulty concerning wise words and why?

What action or attitude can you put in place to help increase your wise words? Consider Proverbs 15:28; 17:27; 21:23 and 29:20.

10. Our words matter, but we cannot have wise speech without God. Read Proverbs 2:6, 15:33 and 16:1,23. What practical measures can you take every day to keep your heart close to God?

11. Which proverb from this lesson was your favorite? Using your own words, write a proverb about an important truth you have learned from this lesson concerning wise speech.

12. Write out a personal prayer request in one or two sentences to share with your small group.

Our Words Matter

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

God's Gracious Gift of Words

Speech is a wonderful, amazing gift from God.

One way we bear God's image is the ability to communicate with words.

God communicates to us through Jesus, the Word.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us to reveal the Father and to give His life to save us.

God communicates to us through the Bible, His written Word.

The written Word instructs us, encourages us, enlightens us, and changes us.

*Do not take God's gracious gift of speech for granted.
Remember, our words matter. They have the power of _____ and _____.*

Wise Words Give Life

Wise words are encouraging and healing. They give confidence and heal broken spirits.

Speaking humble, honest, beautiful words can lead to powerful healing.

Wise words are truthful, instructional, and timely.

Honest, discerning, and well thought out words bring knowledge and joy to the hearer.

*Before you speak, ask yourself:
Are my words helpful? Are my words truthful and timely? Are my words necessary?
Is _____ the best option?*

Unwise Words Bring Death

Unwise words can be harsh, careless, reckless, false, or unkind.

Often unwise words come from a quick temper. Instead, be slow to anger.

Unwise words result in anger, violence, wrongdoing, destruction, and death.

Gossip and lying are examples of unwise words. They can do great damage to a person.

*Before you speak unwise words, ask yourself:
Are my words angry, false, or hurtful? If you answer yes, then _____ talking!*

God Enables Us to Speak Wise Words

Jesus loves you. He died to save you and to change your heart.

What is in your heart comes out of your mouth so put God's Word in your heart.

Walk with Jesus, _____ in God's Word and speak wise, life-giving words.

Living Wisdom – Wise Words Part 2
October 19-20, 2022

PROVERBS 26:28 A lying tongue hates its victims, and a flattering mouth works ruin.

PROVERBS 20:15 There is gold and abundance of costly stones, but the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel.

PROVERBS 10:20 The tongue of the righteous is choice silver; the heart of the wicked is of little worth.

PROVERBS 25:11 A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.

PROVERBS 10:10 Whoever winks the eye causes trouble, and a babbling fool will come to ruin.

PROVERBS 10:19 (NIV) When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise.

PROVERBS 13:3 Whoever guards his mouth preserves his life; he who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.

PROVERBS 10:11 The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.

PROVERBS 12:18 There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

PROVERBS 12:16 (NIV) Fools show their annoyance at once, but the prudent overlook an insult.

JAMES 3:17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial, and sincere.

PROVERBS 11:13 (NIV) A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy person keeps a secret.

PROVERBS 18:8 The words of a whisperer are like delicious morsels; they go down into the inner part of the body.

PROVERBS 11:9a, 12 With his mouth the godless man would destroy his neighbor...Whoever belittles his neighbor lacks sense, but a man of understanding remains silent.

PROVERBS 26:20 For lack of wood the fire goes out, and where there is no whisperer, quarreling ceases.

PROVERBS 2:6 For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

PROVERBS 10:11 The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.