

Watch that Mouth!

The Power of the Tongue

James chapter 3 Comment Even though the tongue is a very small member of the body it has a tremendous power and impact upon one's life. James is saying if the tongue is not governed properly it will set our whole life into a blazing flame of disaster! It has the ability to do enormous damage. James 3:5 states: A great forest can be set on fire by one tiny spark. And the tongue is a fire.....

Just as a horse is turned around and directed by a small bit; the direction of our lives is greatly influenced by the power of the tongue. Just as a large ship is steered by a small rudder; so our lives will follow the course and direction of the tongue!

The power and impact of the tongue is truly out of proportion to its size! James zeros in on the destructive effect the tongue has. Thank God that conversely the tongue has the ability to do great good; produce life; and change the course of our lives for the better!

Proverbs 18:21 Death and Life are in the power of the tongue. And those who love it will eat its fruit.

In other words, those who love talking will reap the consequences of what they say.... In a negative (death) or positive (life) way!

God has so made it that our spoken words (the tongue) have power to bring forth life or death. He has so ordained it that our **spoken words carry a much greater impact than our thoughts**. Our spoken words hold a greater measure of power, creativity and authority than just our thought life.

Psalm 33: 9 For **He (God) spoke** and it came into being; **He commanded** and it came into existence.

God **spoke** the worlds into existence. He did not just think or believe **but spoke them into being!**

Hebrews 11:3 By faith we understand that the universe was **created by the word of God**, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

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Romans 4:17 as it is written, “**I have made you** the father of many nations”— in the presence of the God in whom he (Abraham) believed, Who gives life to the dead and **calls into existence the things that do not exist.**

God is omnipotent and when He opens His mouth to speak His words are Omnipotent ... All powerful!

Genesis 1:3 And **God said**, “Let there be light,” and there was light.

We are created in God’s image and our spoken words are not omnipotent but they are very potent! This is a truth made clear in scripture.

The most effective and wisest use of our tongue is to speak “Truth”; to agree with what God says in His Holy Word; **to believe God and speak God’s Truth.... Speaking Faith, Speaking Hope and Speaking Love will bring with it a triple blessing and defeat the devil’s plans.....** (2 Cor. 4:13.... we believe, therefore we speak)

Jeremiah 23:28 The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and **he that hath My Word, Let him “Speak My Word Faithfully.”**

Matthew 4: 1-11 Jesus himself “Spoke the Word” in the Wilderness when tempted by the devil and chased the devil away! **Jesus said, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone but on every Word that comes out of the mouth of God’.”** **Jesus continued to do battle and defeat the devil with “It is written.” He spoke the Truth of God’s Word.**

Joshua 1:8 **This Book of the Law Shall Not Depart from Your Mouth**, but you **shall meditate** (hagah: to moan, growl, **utter, speak**, muse) on it **day and night**, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. **For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.**

One sure way to forfeit the promises of God and live in defeat is to “Speak **Unbelief (Negative Talk).**”

Read Numbers 13, 14

- ✓ **Numbers 14:23 ... Not one of them will ever see the land I promised... They Believed and Spoke their way right out of what God had promised to give them!**
- ✓ **Our lives are directly affected by what we Believe and Speak. Plainly put: We are going to eat the fruit of our lips.... Our lives will be affected by what we say! This is exactly what happened to the children of Israel.**

The words we speak bear fruit or have consequences. They are seeds being planted and will bear fruit.... Either for good (blessing) or bad (cursing). This is the principle of sowing and reaping. What we plant will in due season reap a harvest. The words of our mouth are seeds being sowed that have the power especially when spoken in faith to produce positive or negative results. The children of Israel's negative talk and negative faith produced negative results!

Luke 8: 8-11 "The Parable of the Sower"God's Word is a seed to be sowed It will bear good fruit if planted in the good soil of a believing heart.

Salvation itself is a matter of Believing and Speaking! Speaking or Confessing our faith is of vital importance.

Romans 10:8, 9, 10 But what does it say? The word is nigh thee, **even in thy mouth**, and in thy heart: that is, the **word of faith**, which we preach; That if thou **shalt confess with thy mouth** the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and **with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**

Matt. 12:36, 37 "Men will have to give account on the Day of Judgment for every **idle word they have spoken**. For **by your words** you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned" ... Our words are of great value in God's sight.

Psalms 34: 11-14 Come, my children, **listen to me;**

I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

¹² Whoever of you loves life

and **desires to see many good days,**

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¹³ keep your tongue from evil..... (Unbelief, doubt, fear, complaining, grumbling, condemning, etc.)

And your **lips from telling lies..... (Speak the truth from God's Word)**

**¹⁴ Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.**

A wholesome tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit." (Proverbs 15:4)

The mouth of the righteous is a well of life, but violence covers the mouth of the wicked." (Proverbs 10:11)

He who guards his mouth preserves his life, but he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction." (Proverbs 13:3)

A fool's mouth is his destruction and his lips are the snare of his soul... Our Words can bring destruction on our own lives. (Proverbs 18:7)

Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the bones." (Proverbs 16:24)

Whoever guards his mouth and tongue keeps his soul from troubles." (Proverbs 21:23)

"Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips." (Ps 141:3)

Suggestions: Take time in your devotions to "Confess" or "Speak Out Loud" God's promises and scriptural truth over your life and the lives of others you are praying for.

Make for yourself a list of scriptures and confess out loud scripture and who God is in your life while driving, walking or working during the day... You are my Healer; you are a very present help in time of trouble; You are gracious, compassionate, You are Good to all and abounding in loving kindness. You are my refuge and underneath me are your everlasting arms. The spoken word has power to change things. Believe God!

Memorize or get index cards of scripture and let them not depart from your sight. Keep them in the midst of your heart. Give full attention to them and speak them out loud. Make the mountains move with your mouth! (Mark 11:23)

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Defeat the devil with active combat! Speak God's Promises out loud. The devil doesn't hear your thoughts. **He is intimidated by your words spoken in faith.**

Partner with God through Believing Him and Speaking Faith Filled Words and watch God work on your behalf!

Always Praise and Thank Him!