

Words That Heal (or Kill)

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Words That Heal (or Kill)

- Most significant verbal exchanges take place between those who are the closest and dearest
- Life & Healing
- Pain & Death

Key Questions

- How did we respond?
- What lessons did we learn?
- How did it change us?

Proverbs 10:19 (NLT)

“Too much talk leads to sin. Be sensible and keep your mouth shut.”

Our Words Are Powerful

Proverbs 18:21 (NLT)

“The tongue can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequences.”

Adult Version

“Sticks and stones can bruise your body for a few days, but words can scar your soul for life.”

Psalm 64:3 (NIV)

“They sharpen their tongues like swords and aim cruel words like deadly arrows.”

Words of Pain

“You’ll never amount to anything.”

“I wish I never had you.”

“You’re nothing like your brother.”

“I’m sick of you.”

“I never loved you.”

“You’ll never change.”

Power of Words

- We are made in the likeness of God.
- The potency of godly words can revive, heal, and change our lives.
- Ungodly words have the power to bind, imprison, and destroy.

Power of Words

1) Words are everywhere

- Matthew 12:37 - “By your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.”

Power of Words

2) Words penetrate deep within

- Proverbs 12:18 - “The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.”
- Proverbs 12:25 - “Anxiety weighs down the heart, but a kind word cheers it up.”

Power of Words

3) Words spread far and wide

- Proverbs 16:27 - “A scoundrel plots evil, and on their lips it is like a scorching fire.”

James 1:26 (NIV)

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- Bridleth

Hannah Whital Smith's Friend

“You Christians seem to have a religion that makes you miserable. You are like a man with a headache. He does not want to get rid of his head, but it hurts him to keep it.”

- WORTHLESS

“If Jesus is judged through your life,
what conclusion will people come to?”

“If Jesus is judged through your speech,
what conclusion will people come to?”

YMPACT - October 2013

“God can see every little thing or thought in your mind, every little act or lie that no one else does. Actually, we may not even have to go so far as to imagine God peering at our every move. Just imagine if it was only your mother or your father who did nothing but shadow you 24 hours a day 7 days a week i.e. They could see everything you did and every word you said. How much would your behaviour change?”

Gossip

- Proverbs 20:19 - “A gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid anyone who talks too much.”
- Proverbs 18:8 - “The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to the inmost parts.”
- The danger is that when we feed on gossip, we’ll always crave more.

Lying

- Proverbs 6:17 - a lying tongue is something that the Lord hates and is something detestable.
- White lies?
- Half truths?

Angry Words

- Proverbs 29:22 - “An angry person stirs up conflict, and a hot-tempered person commits many sins.”
- Like a horse out of control
- Dr John Ng – “Our brains are essentially breeding grounds for bitterness, rage and revenge.”
- Hot button words or phrases that always sets us off

Angry Words

“You stupid idiot!”

“Whatever!”

“You are Always late!”

“You don't care about the family!”

“You will never make it!”

- We have to dig deep to resolve the root of our hot buttons.

Vulgarity

- Robert Raikes
- Sunday School
- Foul language has become mainstream
- But if we speak as the world does, what difference does our faith make?

“If Jesus is judged through your life,
what conclusion will people come to?”

“What did you do on the weekend?
Anything special?”

Conversation

“What did you do on the weekend? Anything special?”

“So what did you do on the weekend?”

“Oh I took my kids to the zoo on Saturday etc and then Sunday, we go to church in the morning just like we do every week.”

“Will you accept Jesus Christ as your
Lord and Saviour?”

Online Speech

- What does the world or the people around see from you by the way you respond or don't respond?
- Colossians 4:5-6 (The Message) - “Use your heads as you live and work among outsiders. Don't miss a trick. Make the most of every opportunity. Be gracious in your speech. The goal is to bring out the best in others in a conversation, not put them down, not cut them out.”

Speech Towards The Government

- What is our frequent response to the authorities? What is the Biblical standard?
- Romans 13:1-2 - “Everyone must submit to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God. So anyone who rebels against authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and they will be punished.”

Speech Towards The Government

- Is our behaviour and speech the best representation of the Word of God?
- What are we showing the world, especially our own children, about how we should treat the authorities in their life?

Re-cap

- The power of our words
- Do our words heal or kill?
- Areas of speech we must rein in and transform

Wave of Healing

- How do we transcend mere words of healing to reach deep to revive, set free, and change lives?
- Proverbs 15:4 - a tongue that brings healing is a tree of life.
- Choose to bring healing to the broken relationships in our lives

Wave of Healing

“Sorry, I was wrong.”

“I forgive you.”

“Will you please forgive me?”

“Please give me another chance.”

“Help me be a better man.”

“I love you.”

Exodus 4:11-12

“Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the Lord? 12 Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.”

Isaiah 59:1

“Surely the arm of the Lord is not too short to save,
nor his ear too dull to hear.”

- With man, it may be impossible but with God, all things are possible.

Will we choose to speak words of life and healing or words of pain and death?