



Guard Your Mouth

📖 Proverbs 18:21

- One of the great determiners of what kind of week you will have when you leave here is your words. The tongue has the power of life and death.

Be Slow.

- We need to make deliberate choices with our words. 📖 Proverbs 29:20

- Think before you speak.

Be Humble.

- Don't think you are the master of your mouth. 📖 James 3:2-10

- Pray and ask God for help with your mouth. 📖 James 1:5; Nehemiah 2:4-5a

Be Quiet.

- A wise person knows when to shut up. 📖 Proverbs 17:28

- Don't assume you need to talk. 📖 Proverbs 26:17

Be Teachable.

- Be open to correcting words.

📖 Proverbs 27:6

- Do you have a listening ear or a defensive posture? 📖 Proverbs 25:12

Be Truthful.

- Don't just tell people what they want to hear. 📖 Proverbs 26:28

- Gossip is often true. But it's not necessary. It's dangerous.

📖 Proverbs 18:8

Be Healing.

- Say helpful and life-giving words.

📖 Proverbs 11:12

- Words are the symptom. The problem is the heart. 📖 Matthew 12:34; Proverbs 15:1; Proverbs 15:4

My Next Right Step

- I am accepting Christ as my Savior.
- I will carefully watch my words this week.
- I will make (renew) a vow not to gossip.
- I will memorize **Proverbs 18:21**.

Next Sunday: "31: Wise Up About Sex"



Please bring this sheet with you to your Home Team this week!

Warm Up

- Share a time when you misspoke and said something funny or embarrassing. (Really!)

Opening Prayer

"Father, thank You for Your life-giving words in Scripture which constantly encourage, challenge, enlighten and refresh us."

Discussion Questions

Read Proverbs 18:21

- ⇒ Share an example of some positive, encouraging words you have heard or received recently.
- ⇒ Words can rob us of our joy and sense of hope. What can we do to reduce the impact of caustic or negative words that come our way?

Read James 3:1-12

This passage tells us that we can change the course of our life by the words we speak!

- ⇒ Give an example of something you could say to someone that could change the course of your life.
- ⇒ Look closer at verses 9 & 10. These verses teach us that when we curse men we are actually cursing God.

- ☞ How can that be true?
- ☞ How will awareness of this change the way you think and talk about others?

Praise & Prayer List

Read Proverbs 16:28; 18:8

Webster's Dictionary defines gossip as: "a person who habitually reveals personal or sensational facts."

- ⇒ Have you ever been wounded by gossip?
- ⇒ What is the best way you've discovered to stop the spread of gossip?

Read Proverbs 26:17

- ⇒ Would you admit that you tend to be "a fixer" even when uninvited to do so?
- ⇒ How can this verse help you stay out of trouble?

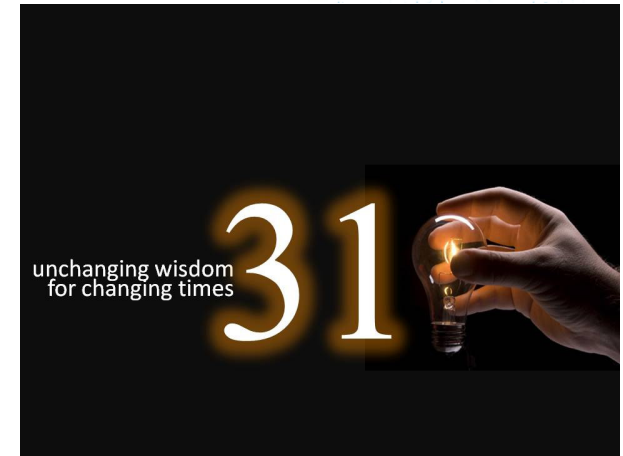
Read Matthew 12:33-37

Jesus speaks some strong words. He is teaching us that we should not strive to simply change our words; we must also have a change of heart.

- ⇒ **For personal reflection:** Have you been struggling with your words because you are in need of a work of God on your heart? If so, ask God to heal you today—from the inside out.
- ⇒ **Action Step:** Think of someone you want to talk to this week in order to give him or her some heart-felt words of encouragement—then do it!



This Sunday
"31"
"Wise Up About Sex"



Guard Your Mouth

Message Notes
 & Home Team
 Small Group Questions

Pastor Lee Huddleston

For the week of May 16, 2010