



A GOOD EXAMPLE In Speech

This week's sermon focuses on how our speech directly impacts the example we set for others. Ted starts us off with recognizing how powerful the tongue is, and then continues to demonstrate how our speech profoundly affects many other areas of our lives including our witness as a Christian.

Read: Proverbs 18:21 James 3:3-6

Spend some time recalling historical events or personal experiences that have been substantially influenced by the power of the tongue either positively or negatively. How does this affect your respect for the power of the tongue? How does knowing the power of the tongue help us to guard our words?

Read: Proverbs 29:20 & 15:28

Do you take time to "ponder" your words? Are you sometimes hasty in speaking your mind? Be honest in answering these two questions and discuss practical ways you can work towards using an appropriate level of restraint in our speech that brings honor to God and maintains peace in our relationships.

Proverbs 15:1 says: A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. Ted suggested that our approach gets us in more trouble than our opinion. How can the desire to be right get in the way of being loving in how we speak?

Read: Matthew 15:18 & Luke 6:45

These verses suggest that our words are generated out of our own heart whether good or bad. Do your words reflect a heart that is right? What kind of heart changes are needed to produce words of grace and truth, spoken in gentleness and respect? How does this influence the witness we have before others which can either bring glory or shame to the name of Jesus?

Ask God to search our hearts and reveal those things that need to change so that we can bring glory and honor to Him with our tongues and be good examples to others.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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