



## The Power of Words

*Pastor Grant McCray, IV- June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

**Theme for the Lesson:** The Impact of Our Speech

**Purpose:** This lesson focuses on the significance of our words, emphasizing how they can either build up or destroy. Understanding the power of our speech helps us use it wisely to bring life and healing.

### **Key Points of Emphasis**

#### *1. Words Have the Power of Life and Death*

- **Proverbs 18:21:** "The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit."
- **Explanation:** This verse underscores the profound impact of our words. They can encourage, uplift, and bring life, or they can harm, discourage, and bring death. We should be mindful of our speech, recognizing its potential to influence others deeply.

#### *2. Gentle Speech vs. Harsh Words*

- **Proverbs 15:1:** "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."
- **Explanation:** The way we respond to others can diffuse tense situations or escalate conflicts. Gentle, kind words can calm anger and promote peace, while harsh words can provoke and intensify strife.

#### *3. The Importance of Truthful Speech*

- **Proverbs 12:22:** "The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy."
- **Explanation:** Honesty and integrity in our speech are crucial. God values truthfulness and despises deceit. Trustworthy speech fosters trust and strengthens relationships.

#### *4. Words as a Reflection of the Heart*

- **Proverbs 4:23-24:** "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. Keep your mouth free of perversity; keep corrupt talk far from your lips."
- **Explanation:** Our words often reflect the condition of our hearts. By guarding our hearts and filling them with goodness, our speech will naturally be pure and wholesome.

#### *5. Encouragement and Building Others Up*

- **Proverbs 16:24:** "Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones."
- **Explanation:** Encouraging and kind words can have a profound, positive impact on others. They can bring comfort, healing, and strength, much like honey provides sweetness and nourishment.

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## **Practical Applications**

### *1. Mindful Speech:*

- Before speaking, consider the potential