

I Will Watch My Words

This topic cannot be over emphasized. We must understand the importance of our words. God used words to create the universe and people. We use words because we are created in His image. The words we use can edify or destroy.

James 3:7-8 (NKJV) For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. [8] But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

God gave dominion over all the animal creation to man (Gen. 1:28), and man has exercised that authority to subdue every kind of animal. However, you must have help to control your tongue. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you change the way you talk!

My Confession:

*By myself, I cannot tame my tongue.
Holy Spirit, I ask you to guide me in
changing my heart and my words.
Instead of poisoning others with what
I say, make me a blessing with words
of life.*

Take Heed

Proverbs 21:23 Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles.

Keepeth: From an old Hebrew word shamar (shaw-mar') that means to hedge about (as with thorns), i.e. guard; to protect, attend to, etc. To be circumspect, take heed (to self), keep, preserve, like a watchman.

My Confession:

I refuse to say stupid things, and therefore keep my mind from being troubled. I choose my words carefully. I watch what I say.

Listen More, Talk Less

Proverbs 10:19-21 (NASB) When there are many words, transgression is unavoidable, But he who restrains his lips is wise. [20] The tongue of the righteous is as choice silver, The heart of the wicked is worth little. [21] The lips of the righteous feed many, But fools die for lack of understanding.

Note: One way to avoid sin is to talk less. A righteous man's words are valuable and will bless others.

My Confession:

The more I talk, the more chance I have of saying something wrong. I am wise, so I listen more than I talk.

Death and Life

Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

Matthew 12:36-37 But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. [37] For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

Idle: Gk. *Argos* (ar-gos') Many translations render this Greek word as "careless." ARGOS literally means "inactive, i.e. unemployed; (by implication) lazy, useless." The Amplified Bible says "inoperative, nonworking."

Instead of saying, "That thrills me to death," which is careless and not what you really want to happen, just say, "I am thrilled!" When you stand before God, He will not accept the excuse, "Oh, I didn't mean anything by that."

My Confession:

Every word I speak produces either death or life. I will be held accountable for my words. My words are powerful

and they bring life!

Worthless Talk

1 Corinthians 15:33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

Deceived: Gk. *planao* (plan-ah'-o) Here it is used in the sense of deceiving oneself.

Evil: Gk. *kakos* (kak-os') worthless, depraved, or injurious.

Communications: Gk. *homilia* (hom-il-ee'-ah) from (*homilos*); *companionship* ("homily"), i.e. (by implication) *intercourse*, communication.

My Confession:

I not only have to watch the words I speak, but I also need to refuse the words of death that others speak. Hanging out with depraved people will corrupt my morals.

Avoid Empty Chatter

2 Timothy 2:16-18 (NASB) But avoid worldly and empty chatter, for it will lead to further ungodliness, [17] and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, [18] men who have gone astray from the truth saying that the resurrection has already taken place, and they upset the faith of some.

Empty chatter: or vain babblings (KJV) Gk. *kenophonia* (ken-of-o-nee'-ah) *fruitless discussion*. In 2 Tim. 2:17-18, Paul used Hymenaeus and Philetus as examples of people who spoke “profane and vain babblings.” We know from these verses that they preached that the resurrection had already happened. Therefore, “worldly and empty chatter” includes false doctrine.

My Confession:

I will stay away from fruitless discussions and false teaching. I keep my communications in line with the Word of God.

Dirty Jokes

Eph. 5:4, Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.

Eph. 5:4 (NLT) Obscene stories, foolish talk, and coarse jokes, these are not for you. Instead, let there be thankfulness to God.

Filthiness: Gk. *aischrotes* (ahee-skhot'-ace) *shamefulness*, i.e. *obscenity*, all that is contrary to purity.

Foolish talking: Gk. *morologia* (mo-rol-og-ee'-ah) literally means “silly talk, i.e. buffoonery.”

Jesting: Read at least the first 20 verses of this chapter, to keep this verse in context. Paul is not against humor, but unsuitable and unclean jesting. Some jesting is convenient, meaning “fitting and proper; suitable” (American Heritage Dictionary). Joking with a person in an appropriate way can be very useful to building relationships. Jest with a person in an inappropriate way can be damaging. If the person you are kidding doesn't like it, it is inappropriate.

My Confession:

Instead of dirty, coarse jokes, I will direct conversations toward things that please God. My motive is to bless others. My humor should always be appropriate and edifying in some way.

Excellence and Truth

Proverbs 8:6-7 Hear; for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things. [7] For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

Excellent: Wisdom is speaking here. She uses the word *nagid* (naw-gheed') translated "excellent" from the Hebrew and it means "a commander (as occupying the *front*), civil, military or religious; generally (abstractly, plural), *honorable* themes."

Truth: 'emet (eh'-meth), from ('aman); *stability; figurative certainty, truth, trustworthiness* – assured (-ly), establishment, faithful, right, sure, true (-ly, -th), verity.

Wisdom is like a general, top in rank, She shares the great truths of God. Wisdom only speaks truth. Lying is wicked and an abomination to the Lord.

My Confession:

I will yield to the Lord and His wisdom, and will only speak the truth.

This little eBook is powerful in the hands of believers. Keep this and meditate on the scriptures and confessions, and share them with friends. I truly hope that you are blessed with the Word of God through these *Victory Briefings*.

God bless you my friend,

—*Dwight Hammond*

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