

The Power of Your Words Series

“Taming the Tongue”

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Note: Unless otherwise noted, all Scriptures are from the NKJV Bible.

Psalm 19:14 “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.”

“God’s Word that is conceived in your heart, then formed by the tongue, and spoken out of your own mouth, becomes a spiritual force releasing the ability of God within you.” Capps, Charles. *The Tongue, A Creative Force* (Kindle Locations 18-20). Capps Publishing. Kindle Edition.

Little Fire, Great Destruction

James 3:5-6, 8 “Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell... But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.”

* James uses the word fire when describing the tongue.

* Fire has the amazing and virtually unique capacity to reproduce itself in an almost unlimited way as long as it has fuel to burn.

Proverbs 26:20 “Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; And where there is no talebearer, strife ceases.”

Ephesians 4:29-32 “Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.”

* God’s people should be speaking words to build others up, not tear them down.

* The same principle applies to our own lives. We should be speaking life into the dead or dry areas of our life. (marriage, finances, academics, health)

"I can live two months on a good compliment." –Mark Twain
https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/mark_twain_100358

* In our church, we need to concentrate on speaking life to this city!

"Post a guard at my mouth, God, set a watch at the door of my lips" Psalm 141:3 (MSG).

1. Remember you cannot do this on your own; it is the work of the Holy Spirit. Ask God to bring your speech under His sovereign control.
2. Ask God to let you hear yourself, often times we have no idea how careless we are in our speech.

Ephesians 4:22-24 "...that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness."

3. Practice "putting off" and "putting on." Use your purple bracelet to "Put Off" careless, idle words and replace them with words that are edifying!!

“I WON’T COMPLAIN”

Guidelines

Our Goal -

“Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain” Philippians 2:14-16 (NKJV).

“If you don’t like something, change it. If you can’t change it, change your attitude. Don’t Complain.” www.theguardian.com, *Maya Angelou Quotes, 15 of the Best, Quote 2.*

As we start this challenge I want to share two things:

1. You do not have to participate in this challenge. If you choose to continue to complain that is your choice. We are not telling you what to do or trying to control you. You are free to continue to be your negative self.
2. If you take a Complaint Free purple band and put it on your wrist you are committing to the challenge to stop complaining, criticizing, blaming and gossiping.

Guidelines

1. Begin to wear the bracelet on either wrist.
2. When you catch yourself complaining, gossiping, blaming or criticizing, move the bracelet to the other wrist and begin again.
3. If you hear someone else who is wearing a purple bracelet complain, it’s okay to point out his or her need to switch the bracelet to the other arm; BUT if you’re doing to do this, you must move your bracelet first! Because you’re complaining about their complaining. Both of you will start over at day 1. There is NO shame in Day #1.
4. Stay with it. It may take many months to reach 21 consecutive days. It takes an average of 4 to 8 months to break this negative habit.

We’re only talking about complaints, criticism, blaming and gossip that are spoken. If it comes out of your mouth, it counts, so start over. If you just think it... its free. You will find out that even your complaining and negative thoughts will disappear as you move through this process.

“...the three things that stop people more than anything else does from achieving their goals: criticizing, complaining, and blaming. These are the three horsemen of failure.”

www.wow4u.com, *Inspirational Words of Wisdom, David DeNotaris Quotes, Page 3*

“Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit” Proverbs 18:21 (NKJV).

Dailey Ditties From Delron's Desk

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Prejudice vs. Progress

Prejudice definition: Unreasonable feelings, opinions, or attitudes, especially of a hostile nature, regarding an ethnic, racial, social, or religious group. (Dictionary App)

Prejudice shows itself in many different forms.

Social Status or Occupation

This passage records Joseph's warning to his father and brothers that they not refer to themselves as shepherds since shepherds were considered an abomination in Egypt.

Genesis 46:33-34 - So it shall be, when Pharaoh calls you and says, 'What is your occupation?' that you shall say, "Your servants' occupation has been with livestock from our youth even till now, both we and also our fathers," that you may dwell in the land of Goshen; for every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians."

Race or Skin Color

Miriam criticized Moses for marrying a black woman.

Numbers 12:1-3 - Then Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married; for he had married an Ethiopian woman. So, they said, "Has the Lord indeed spoken only through Moses? Has He not spoken through us also?" And the Lord heard it. (Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.)

Geographical Origin

Nathanael questioned if any good thing could possibly come out of Nazareth.

John 1:45-46 - Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"

Philip said to him, "Come and see."

Family Heritage

Jephthah was a social outcaste because his mother was a prostitute.

Judges 11:1-2 - Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valor, but he was the son of a harlot; and Gilead begot Jephthah. Gilead's wife bore sons; and when his wife's sons grew up, they drove Jephthah out, and said to him, "You shall have no inheritance in our father's house, for you are the son of another woman."

Progress occurs when all men and women are given equal opportunities regardless of their origin.

Just look at these examples of progress made by African Americans:

Jan Matzeliger invented the automatic shoe laster machine. It attached the upper part of a shoe to the sole. A skilled hand laster could produce 50 pairs in a ten-hour day. The machine could produce between 150 to 700 pairs of shoes a day, cutting shoe prices across the nation in half.

Charles Brooks invented the street sweeper.

Fredrick Jones invented the refrigeration system for trucks.

Garrett Morgan invented the traffic signal and the gas mask.

Henrietta Bradberry invented torpedoes.

Madame CJ Walker became the first woman millionaire through developing a line of cosmetic products.

Charles Drew developed blood banks.

Daniel Williams performed the first open heart surgery.

Lewis Latimer assisted Thomas Edison in developing the light bulb and Alexander Bell in developing the telephone

Andrew Beard invented the automatic railroad car coupler,

Elijah McCoy invented the automatic lubrication system for locomotives – a product so good that railway engineers insisted on having his product rather than a substitute, giving rise to our common expression, “the real McCoy.”