

Reading: Colossians 4:5,6**Topic:** The Importance Of The Words We Speak

INTRODUCTION: The Word of God states that _____ and _____ are in the power of the tongue, thus how important are the _____ that we speak each day. Pr. 18:21

I. RESEARCH REVEALS:

A. In The Workplace:

- Recent research has discovered that how employees _____ to one another has a bearing on workplace performance, customer satisfaction and on company _____.
- Studies show that the most effective _____ groups have people in them that give one another words of encouragement and affirmation six times more than _____ of negativity and disapproval.
- The same studies revealed that the least productive teams in a workplace are those that _____ three times as many negative _____ and comments as any positive or helpful ones.

B. In Daily Life:

- People in everyday life are exposed to various kinds of media and _____ sources, most of which send out over ninety percent negative _____ in their repertoire.
- When one is exposed to a continual stream of _____ information, it tends to affect individuals in their _____ and in their behavior.
- Surveys reveal that there are more negative minded and negative _____ people than there are positive minded and positive _____ people. Num. 13:25-33

II. WORDS ARE IMPORTANT:

A. What Jesus Said:

- Jesus taught that our _____ are vitally important and that one day we will be judged for the things that we _____. Mt. 12:36,37 (idle = useless)
- Jesus also taught that the _____ that are spoken by an individual really are revealing what is in the inside or the _____ of that person. Mt. 12:34
- A negative minded individual will _____ negatively while on the other hand a positive minded person will _____ positively. Mt. 12:35

B. What A Wise Man Said:

- There is a lesson to learn from the wise man who was inspired by God to _____ the Book of Proverbs and parts of the writing include the subject of our _____. Pr. 25:11 (fitly – right, proper)
- Knowing _____ to speak and when to speak is something that we all can learn by asking God for more wisdom and by observing others who are effective in their _____. Pr. 15:23
- The Word of God states that there is a time to _____ and a time to keep quiet, and God will give us the wisdom to _____ and understand which time it is. Ecc. 3:7
- People who do not learn how to properly be guided by God and just blurt out hasty _____ will end up getting into problems often. Pr. 29:20

III. WORDS THAT HELP:

A. The Encouragers:

1. The prophet Isaiah described a building project that was being _____ on by several different men and the project was successful because men spoke _____ of encouragement to each other. Is. 41:6,7
2. The story of the rebuilding the _____ of Jerusalem in the Book of Nehemiah is an inspiration and good illustration of the contrast between _____ talkers and positive words and attitudes. Neh. 4:1-3, 6,14
3. With the help of prayer and the encouraging _____, the people were inspired to do their work and do it efficiently and in a speedy manner. Neh. 6:15,16

B. Exhortation To Edify:

1. The Word of God gives instruction to us to be involved in things that _____ one another and that is including the _____ that we speak to one another. Rom. 14:19
2. We have to choose to make an effort to use our words to _____ and encourage one another, not to find fault and criticize with negative attitudes and _____. Rom. 15:2
3. God will give us the right _____ to speak to others if we walk with Him daily through giving time to pray and absorb His Spirit and Word into our spirit, and rejecting our own _____ feelings and attitudes that can do harm to us and others. Is. 50:4

CONCLUSION: May the Lord help each of us to allow Him to _____ in our hearts and minds so that we will understand the importance of knowing how to speak _____ that bring hope and peace to hurting people. Let us be involved in the ministry of encouragement. Ps. 19: