

SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE

LOVING WITH YOUR WORDS

40 Days of Love – Week 3 – August 1, 2010

Pastor George M. Dupree – <http://www.lwfgc.org>

40 Days of Love Week 3 Memory Verse

† 1Corinthians 13:6 Love rejoices in the truth, but not in evil.

Your words are very powerful; We have power to change our world by our words – If You Change Your Words You Can Change Your World.

† Proverbs 18:21 (AMP) Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and they who indulge in it shall eat the fruit of it [for death or life]

My words _____ where I go.

† James 3:3 (NLT) We can make a large horse turn around and go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth. 4 And a tiny rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot wants it to go, even though the winds are strong. 5 So also, the tongue is a small thing, but what enormous damage it can do. A tiny spark can set a great forest on fire.

My words can _____ what I have.

† Mark 7:14 (CEV) Jesus called the crowd together again and said, "Pay attention and try to understand what I mean. 15 The food that you put into your mouth doesn't make you unclean and unfit to worship God. The bad words that come out of your mouth are what make you unclean."

My words _____ who I really am.

† Matthew 12:34 (NJB) "Words flow out of what fills the heart."

1. Love People With HONEST WORDS

† Ephesians 4:15a (NIV) ...speaking the truth in love...

† 1 Corinthians 13:6 (NIV) Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

† Proverbs 27:5 (NLT) An open rebuke is better than hidden love!

2. Love People With _____ WORDS

† Proverbs 16:28b (NIV) A gossip separates close friends.

† Proverbs 21:23 (Message) Watch your words and hold your tongue; you'll save yourself a lot of grief.

3. Love People With _____ WORDS

† Ephesians 4:29 (NIV) Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs...

THINK Before You Speak – Are Your Words

TRUTHFUL? Before you say something is it truthful? Is it MOSTLY truth or all of the truth? Is it colored with an attitude that makes you look better?

HELPFUL? Will it be helpful or harmful?

INSPIRATIONAL? Is it going to build up or tear down? Is it going to give people hope and encourage and make them want to move forward in their life?

NECESSARY? Some things aren't necessarily wrong to say. There's nothing wrong with saying them. They're just not necessary.

KIND? This is what we were talking about this in our small groups this week. Is it kind? Love is kind.

Give Your Words The **FOUR-WAY** Test

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

THIS WEEK I WILL CHOOSE:

Kind Words Because They Cheer People Up

† Proverbs 12:25 (NIV) An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind word cheers him up.

Gentle Words Because They Calm Tense Situations

† Proverbs 15:1 (NIV) A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

Honest Words Because They Make Us Feel Loved

† Proverbs 24:26 (NIV) An honest answer is like a kiss on the lips.

Wise Words Because They Heal Broken Hearts

† Proverbs 12:18 (NLT) Some people make cutting remarks, but the words of the wise bring healing.