

WORDS ARE IMPORTANT.

7/12/2026 PM

INTRO.:

A. Bible often emphasizes the importance of our words.

1. **James 3:1-5** (READ).
 - 1) Words are used to convey messages and emotions.
 - 2) It matters what we say and how we say things!
2. Our words can be used for good or for bad.
 - 1) We are to exhort and encourage one another!
 - a. **1 Thess. 4:18** "Wherefore comfort one another with these words."
 - b. **Col. 4:6** "Let your speech be always with grace..."
 - 2) Must be careful with our words.

B. Since words are important...

DISCUSSION: WE SHOULD USE OUR WORDS TO...

I. ENCOURAGE.

A. All have experienced bad days and discouragement.

1. Our words can help the broken-hearted and encourage the discouraged.
 - 1) **Pro. 12:25** "Heaviness in the heart of man maketh it stoop: but a good word maketh it glad."
 - 2) **1 Thess. 5:11** "Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do."
 - 3) **Pro. 15:23** "A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good is it!" (Suitable; fitting).
 - a. What we say and how it is spoken encourages.
 - b. Comforting word can lift us up!
2. A good word can cheer. It can help heal a contrite heart.
 - 1) **Pro. 16:24** "Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones."
 - 2) Like medicine: **Pro. 17:22** "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones."

B. Words can wound or help heal a wound.

1. **Pro. 18:21** "Death and life are in the power of the tongue..."
2. **Pro. 10:21** "The lips of the righteous feed many: but fools die for want of wisdom."

C. Did you ever consider the value of encouraging words?

1. **Pro. 25:11** "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver."
 - 1) Fitly spoken = Quickly... (when most needed).
 - 2) LIKE "apples of gold..." (Great value.)
2. Make sure your words are seeking the best outcome.

II. EDIFY.

A. It is a popular thing in our world to BRING OTHERS DOWN!

1. Must be careful never to speak "discouraging words."
 - 1) Not to say we are not to correct.
 - 2) But correction should be constructive. (Seeking good.)
2. Paul warned: **Eph. 4:29** "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers."
 - 1) NO CORRUPT - None at all!
 - 2) Complaining and murmuring will discourage others.

B. Christians are to EDIFY one another.

1. EDIFY = (the act of) building, building up (Thayer's).
 - 1) **Rom 14:19** "Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another." Promote peace!
 - 2) **Eph. 4:12** "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:" (Maturing, equipping).
2. Whatever we say or do to one another MUST be for the benefit and good of others. (Individually and congregationally.)

III. TWO BIBLE EXAMPLES:

- A. **Hezekiah: 2 Chro. 30:22** "And Hezekiah spake comfortably unto all the Levites that taught the good knowledge of the LORD: and they did eat throughout the feast seven days, offering peace offerings, and making confession to the LORD God of their fathers."
 1. He spoke to their heart, to encourage.
 2. It seems that Hezekiah made a habit of encouraging others (**2 Chro. 32:6-7** "And he set captains of war over the people, and gathered them together to him in the street of the gate of the city, and spake comfortably to them, saying, Be strong and courageous, be not afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him: for there be more with us than with him:")
- B. **Onesiphorus: 2 Tim. 1:16** "The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain:"
 1. Refreshed = To recover, relieve.
 2. **Pro 25:13** "As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him: for he refresheth the soul of his masters."

IV. CONCLUSION:

- A. **We must take care that we think before we speak.**
- B. **Even when correcting, we must do so with a view to correct.**
- C. **Ephesians 4:15 "But speaking the truth in love..."**