



Wisdom in our Words
Proverbs (October 28)

Series Summary: In every area of our lives we are given advice and wisdom whether it be Biblical or not, but how do we distinguish what advice to listen to? The book of Proverbs tells of Godly wisdom to follow as opposed to what we hear from the world.

Big Idea/Question: We tend to think that our words don't have a big effect on those we come in contact with, however, the words we say have a larger impact than we may realize. How can we better speak with wisdom to positively impact those around us?

GET THEM TALKING

We've all heard the phrase "sticks and stones may break your bones...", do you think that phrase is true?

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

Proverbs 10:19-21 Sin is not ended by multiplying words, but the prudent hold their tongues. **20** The tongue of the righteous is choice silver, but the heart of the wicked is of little value. **21** The lips of the righteous nourish many, but fools die for lack of sense.

Leader Note / Prudence: most kids will have no idea what this means. Definition I would use acting or thinking with the future in mind. Aka "looking before you leap."

What are the different ways our words can tear people down?

Why is it wise to sometimes hold your tongue as stated in verse 19?

What steps can we take to better ourselves on the words we say?

Just as it is wise to sometimes hold your tongue, can it be just as wise to speak up at times? Why do you think that?

When do you know when to hold your tongue vs. when to speak out?

Vs 21- What are the different ways we can build people up and represent Christ with our words? Be practical with this! What do you need to say, and who do you need to say it to?

VIDEO TEACHING

Proverbs is known for being the book in the bible that's full of wisdom. We find wisdom on many various topics. This week we're looking at wisdom in our words that we speak. We often think that our words don't carry any weight, but that's simply not the case.

Have you ever said something where your initial reaction is "I have no idea where that came from"? The truth is that those words didn't come from nowhere, they have a source....that source is our heart.

Matthew 15:17-18 17 "Don't you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body? 18 But the things that come out of a person's mouth come from the heart, and these defile them.

The words we say are a direct representation of what is within our hearts. Our hearts are naturally sinful, so we must work on that conscious effort to watch what we say.

We tend to underestimate the effect of our words, but we must realize just how much power our words hold and the effect that words have on people.

The point of the story within the talk is a personal experience realizing the effect our words have on people, to the point where others can see God through what we say or don't say.

When we guard our mouths and watch our tongues, we see a difference not only in our lives, but in our peer's lives as well.

Proverbs 21:23 Those who guard their mouths and their tongues keep themselves from calamity.

When we guard our mouths and tongues we see less harm (lies, gossip, slander, etc) against others and it creates a notable difference.

- Keeps us from getting into trouble.
- Keeps others from getting into trouble, and gives them a good influence.
- It keeps us from sounding like the rest of the world and allows us to stand out in a Christ-like way.

Why do we do this? So that our communities can hear Christ represented through us.

- We also do this because Jesus did it first. We see his perfect example of how to talk to others when he was here on Earth. He spread love, compassion, grace, and wisdom through the words he spoke, and people took note of that.
- We can have the same effect on our communities that Jesus had if we follow his example to the best of our ability.