

WORDS HAVE POWER: PROVERBS QUICK REFERENCE

MELISSA GENDREAU MS, LMHC, NCC
HUMBLE FAITH FAMILY WELLNESS

THE IMPORTANCE OF WORDS

- 10:11 The mouth of the righteous is a well of life, but violence covers the mouth of the wicked.
- 10:20 The tongue of the righteous is choice silver; the heart of the wicked is worth little.
- 12:14 A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth, and the recompense of a man's hands will be rendered to him.
- 15:4 A wholesome tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.
- 17:10 Rebuke is more effective for a wise man than a hundred blows on a fool.
- 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.
- 25:11 A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.

THE DANGER OF WORDS

- 10:19 In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise.
- 14:23 In all labor there is profit, but idle chatter leads only to poverty.

THE RIGHT WAY TO SPEAK

- 10:14 Wise people store up knowledge, but the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.
- 10:21 The lips of the righteous feed many, but fools die for lack of wisdom.
- 10:32 The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable, but the mouth of the wicked what is perverse.
- 12:25 Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, but a good word makes it glad.
- 15:1-2 A soft answer tuns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise uses knowledge rightly, but the mouth of fools pours forth foolishness.
- 15:23 A man has joy by the answer of his mouth, and a word spoken in due season, how good it is!
- 15:28 The heart of the righteous studies how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours forth evil.
- 16:23-24 The heart of the wise teaches his mouth, and adds learning to his lips. Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.
- 17:27 He who has knowledge spares his words, and a man of understanding is of a calm spirit.

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THE RIGHT WAY TO SPEAK

- 17:28 even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace; when he shuts his lips, he is considered perceptive.
- 25:12 Like an earring of gold and an ornament of fine gold is a wise rebuker to an obedient ear.
- 25:15 By long forbearance a ruler is persuaded, and a gentle tongue breaks a bone.
- 27:5-6 Open rebuke is better than love carefully concealed. Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.
- 28:23 He who rebukes a man will find more favor afterward than he who flatters with the tongue.

THE WRONG WAY TO SPEAK

- 6:16-19 These six things the Lord hates, yes, seven are an abomination to Him: a proud look, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that are swift in running to evil, a false witness who speaks lies, and one who sows discord among brethren.

THE WRONG WAY TO SPEAK

- 11:9 The hypocrite with his mouth destroys his neighbor, but through knowledge the righteous will be delivered.
- 11:12-13 He who is devoid of wisdom despises his neighbor, but a man of understanding holds his peace. A tale bearer reveals secrets, but it is overthrown by mouth of the wicked.
- 12:18 There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, but the tongue of the wise promotes health.
- 13:3 He who guards his mouth preserves his life, but he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction.
- 16:27-28 An undlogly man digs up evil, and it is on his lips like a burning fire. A perverse man sows strife, and a whisperer separates the best of friends.
- 18:8 The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles, and they go down into the inmost body.
- 18:13 He who answers a matter before he hears it, it is folly and shame to him.
- 26:24-25 He who hates, disguises it with his lips, and lays up deceit within himself; when he speaks kindly, do not believe him, for there are seven abominations in his heart;