

Sticks and Stones
Proverbs 18:20-21
July 7, 2019

3 reasons why words are important:

- God's words are His power.
- The sheer quantity of words, we use.
- The amazing power of words

3 characteristics of life-giving words:

Speak truthful words (27:5)

Proverbs 27:5–6 (ESV)

⁵ Better is open rebuke than hidden love. ⁶ Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy.

Speak graceful words (15:4)

Proverbs 15:4 (ESV)

⁴ *A gentle (Hebrew healing) tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.*

Proverbs 15:4 (The Message)

⁴ *Kind words heal and help; cutting words wound and maim.*

Examples of Truth without Grace:

- Gossip (20:19)

Proverbs 20:19 (NLT)

¹⁹ *A gossip goes around telling secrets, so don't hang around with chatterers.*

- Heart test: If you enjoy sharing It's not love.
- Truth with no relationship. (*Prov 12:18*)

Proverbs 12:18 (ESV)

¹⁸ There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Heart Test: *When you are speaking wounded words for the right reasons, it never feels good!*

Speak uplifting Words (Prov. 16:24)

Proverbs 16:24 (ESV)

²⁴ Gracious (kind) words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body.

7 Day Verbal Challenge