



2.14.2015

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## THE TONGUE OF THE WISE

### Words to Supplement our Lives

It's commonly said that Talk is Cheap and Actions Speak Louder than words. Even great saints are quoted as saying that words should only be a supplement to how we live our lives. However, your words—even your smallest comments—have great power. They can encourage success, bend a child's behavior in life or break a grown man or woman.

In Luke 4:22, Jesus shows the value and importance of words in his ministry. Even as he was loving people, healing them, and caring for them, he was speaking to them, proclaiming the good news to them.

Did Jesus speak words of bitterness or complaint? Can you imagine him angrily yelling at someone who cut him off with a donkey cart in Jerusalem traffic? (Note that in today's world, the ass is behind the wheel). No, his words were gracious! They were warm and inviting.

Even when he spoke to his enemies, his voice probably cracked with emotions like sadness and frustration rather than fury and hatred. And because of the words he used and the way he spoke them, people flocked to his side.

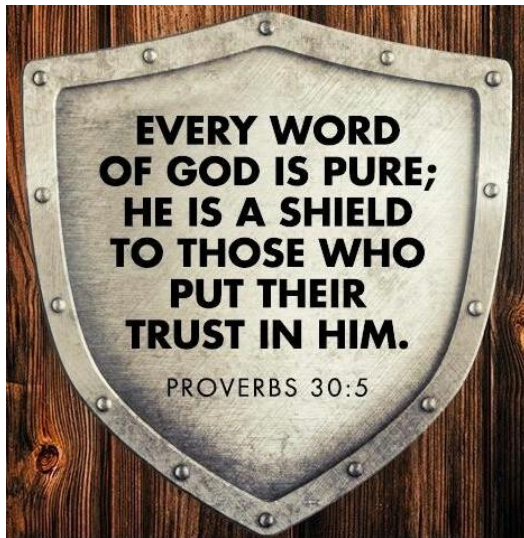
If you ever doubt that your words—even your smallest comments—have great power, think about the effects that negative words have. Were you ever made fun of as a child? Did anyone ever make an offhand remark that still stings? How long have they stuck with you? These negative comments can fall so carelessly from our lips. We might be quick to criticize or judge, without remembering how deeply words can hurt and limit a person's potential. If negative speech can have such a profound impact, imagine how much more power your words of encouragement, appreciation, and affirmation can have!

BE CAREFUL  
WITH YOUR WORDS.  
ONCE THEY ARE  
SAID,  
THEY CAN BE ONLY  
FORGIVEN,  
NOT FORGOTTEN.

New teachers are trained that for each criticism or correction they give, they should also give at least three positive comments. In Business, we call this technique the 2-1-1 rule when delivering needed criticism. Find 2 positive things to say about an individual, deliver the performance item needing to be corrected, and follow-up with another positive trait.

Remember not only to say the right thing in the right place, but far more difficult still, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.

- Benjamin Franklin



Try to put this technique into practice today. For every complaint that slips out, be sure to say three positive things. Encourage your spouse and children and co-workers and neighbors. Thank the cashier at the grocery store. Bless the person who cuts you off in traffic. Try to make all of your words gracious...more so – KIND. You may give the only encouragement that someone receives all day!

“Lord, let my words be gracious like yours.” Amen!

Let us pay close attention to the following Scripture, Catechism and our presentation. May God bless us with His Wisdom, Work and the Wherewithal to complete the mission given to each one of us. Amen

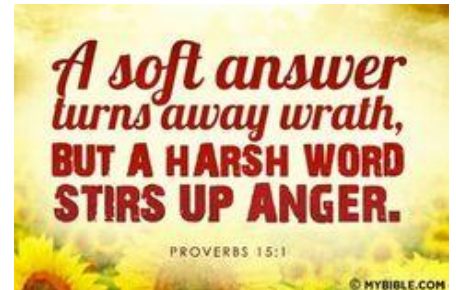
**Proverbs 15: 1-5** *Words Matter – Speak Carefully*

A mild answer turns back wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise pours out knowledge, but the mouth of fools spews folly. The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good.

A soothing tongue is a tree of life, but a perverse one breaks the spirit. The fool spurns a father's instruction, but whoever heeds reproof is prudent.

**Hebrews 10:24-25** *Encourage Each Other*

We must consider how to rouse one another to love and good works. We should not stay away from our gathering, ...but encourage one another, and this all the more as you see the day drawing near.



**1 Thessalonians 5:9-11** *Build Up Each Other*

For God did not destine us for wrath, but to gain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live together with him.

Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up, as indeed you do.



The Word of the Lord.

**Catechism** *Words Matter*  
**2469**

Men could not live with one another if there were not mutual confidence that they were being truthful to one another. The virtue of truth gives another his just due. Truthfulness keeps to the just mean between what ought to be expressed and what ought to be kept secret: it entails honesty and discretion. In justice, as a matter of honor, one man owes it to another to tell the truth.



2477

Respect for the reputation of persons forbids every attitude and word likely to cause them unjust injury. He becomes **guilty**:

–of **rash judgment** who, even tacitly assumes as true without sufficient foundation, the moral fault of a neighbor;

–of **detraction** who, without objectively valid reason, discloses another's faults and failings to persons who did not know them;

–of **slander** who, by remarks contrary to the truth, harms the reputation of others and gives occasion for false judgments concerning them.

*If you claim to be religious  
but don't control your tongue,  
you are fooling yourself,  
and your religion is worthless.*

*- James 1:26*

### **Modern Comment – Willy Nelson**

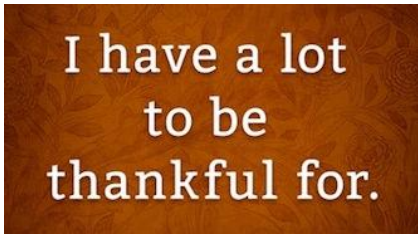
"What A Wonderful World" written by Doug Dipreta

I see trees of green red roses too  
I see them bloom for me and you  
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world

I see skies of blue and clouds of white  
The bright blessed days the dark sacred nights  
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world

The colors of the rainbow so pretty in the sky  
Are also on the faces of people going by  
I see friends shaking hands saying "How do you do?"  
They're really saying 'I love you'

I hear babies crying, watch them grow  
They'll learn much more than I'll never know  
And I think to myself what a wonderful world  
And I think to myself what a wonderful world



**THANK GOD FOR TODAY BECAUSE TODAY I WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO:**

- † PRAISE GOD during Happy Moments
- † SEEK GOD during Difficult Moments
- † WORSHIP GOD during Quiet Moments
- † TRUST GOD during Painful Moments
- † THANK GOD during Every Moment!

**Questions to Focus on:**

1 Have there been occasions when someone said something to you that has carried forward in life – Negative or Positive? Can you share?

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2 How do you think you touched a person's life with your words? Was there a time you've said something you regretted? Give an example when you have built someone up.

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3 What steps might you take in the future to model your upcoming words to be spoken more like Christ?

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**Men's Group Calendar**

<b>2/28/201</b>	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
<b>3/14/2015</b>	<b>Men's Group</b>	<b>7 AM Mass</b>
<b>3/21/2015</b>	<b>CMFNEO Annual Conference</b>	Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School 8AM-4PM
<b>3/28/2015</b>	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
<b>4/11/2015</b>	<b>Men's Group</b>	<b>7 AM Mass</b>



I see friends shaking hands saying "How do you do?"  
They're really saying 'I love you'  
Let someone in your life know that you love them for who they are  
exactly in this Place & Time.  
May God Bless You.

St. Hilary Men's Group



**Lord, God and Savior, by your love you draw me to yourself. Forgive me – the sinner that I am, and fill me with every good thing, not withholding even the gift of your most beloved son. Come dwell in my heart.**

**Send forth your Holy Spirit to guide me in your path. Make me worthy of your love, and teach me how to forgive as you forgave.**

**Thank you for your tender mercies. I ask you to bless my family, friends and those who I meet in my comings and goings. Where there is joy, give them continued joy. Where there is pain or sorrow, give them your peace and mercy. Where there is self-doubt, release in them a renewed confidence. Fill their every need with your Holy Grace.**

**You are indeed my Lord, God and Savior.  
Amen**

