

## Reflection & Discussion Questions

### The Power of Words – Proverbs 31:26

1. What is the correlation of the heart and tongue? See Proverbs 4:23 and Matthew 12:34
  - What does this reveal to you when you hear yourself say something that you should not have said?
  
2. What does James tell us about the tongue in James 3:2-12?
  - What does the Lord speak to you and what can you learn from this?
  
3. Match each negative aspect of speech with the corresponding Bible passage.

Proverbs 10:19	Lying
Proverbs 18:13, 17	Talebearing
Proverbs 12:17-22	Talking too much
Proverbs 26:28b	Talking too soon
Proverbs 17:14 & 29:22	Coarse talk
Proverbs 18:8 & 20:19	Flattering
Ephesians 5:4 & Colossians 3:8	Strife & Quarreling

  - How can each of these hurt and destroy others?
  
4. Write out Ephesians 4:29 in your favorite translation.
  - Give three ways you can speak what is good and edifying to others.
  
5. From the following verses, give an example of how you can sharpen these skills in your life:

Speak a good word – Proverbs 12:25

Give a soft answer – Proverbs 15:1

Give a timely word – Proverbs 15:23

Think before you speak – Proverbs 15:28

Speak pleasant and sweet words – Proverbs 16:24

Keep quiet – Proverbs 17:28

6. Do your very best to put each of the following into practice this week:
  - Give pleasant words to someone that you have thought kindly about but have never, or rarely, told them so.
  - Ask the Lord to show you someone who needs encouragement then give it to them verbally.
  - Give a kind word to a stranger.
  - Speak words of life to someone.
  - Compliment and encourage those you live with.
  - When you meet with your small group, speak one kind thing to each person.
  
7. How has the Lord shaped your heart and therefore your speech over the years?
  
  
8. What has He spoken to you at this point in time concerning your conversations?
  
  
  
9. Choose one or more or all the following verses to pray and praise the Lord!

Psalm 141:3  
Psalm 51:15

Psalm 19:14  
Psalm 71:8

Psalm 89:1