

Words (Tongue)

James 1:19-27

Tongue is Important

Exodus 4:11 The Lord said to him, “Who has made man’s mouth? Or who makes him mute or deaf, or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the Lord?”

Psalms 19:14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer.

Psalms 141:3 Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips.

Proverbs 15:23 A man has joy in an apt answer, And how delightful is a timely word!

Proverbs 25:11 Like apples of gold in settings of silver Is a word spoken in right circumstances.

Gives life

Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.

Esther 7:3-4 Then Queen Esther replied, “If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me as my petition, and my people as my request; for we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed and to be annihilated. Now if we had only been sold as slaves, men and women, I would have remained silent, for the trouble would not be commensurate with the annoyance to the king.”

Gives knowledge

Proverbs 15:1-7 A gentle answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger.

The tongue of the wise makes knowledge acceptable, But the mouth of fools spouts folly.

A soothing tongue is a tree of life, But perversion in it crushes the spirit.

A fool rejects his father’s discipline, But he who regards reproof is sensible.

The lips of the wise spread knowledge, But the hearts of fools are not so.

Proverbs 15:28 The heart of the righteous ponders how to answer, But the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things.

Proverbs 16:23 The heart of the wise instructs his mouth And adds persuasiveness to his lips.

Proverbs 20:15 There is gold, and an abundance of jewels; But the lips of knowledge are a more precious thing.

Acts 2:11 Cretans and Arabs—we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God.”

Acts 15:7 After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “Brethren, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles would hear the word of the gospel and believe.

Teaching the word of God

Preaching

Philip - Samaria **Acts 8**; Apostles - Pentecost; Paul-Antioch of Pisidia **Acts 13**

Exhortation

Acts 11:22-24 The news about them reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas off to Antioch. Then when he arrived and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord; for he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord.

Defending the gospel

Philippians 1:16 ... I am appointed for the defense of the gospel;

Private teaching

Aquila & Priscilla taught Apollos. **Acts 18**; Philip taught the Eunuch **Acts 8**

Correction of sin (Sp. effort to correct sin in others)

Galatians 2:11-14 Paul correcting Peter

Galatians 6:1 Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.

James 5:19-20 My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth and one turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Acts 8:20-24 Peter correcting Simon the Sorcerer

Use mouth (tongue) to praise God

Psalms 66:17 I cried to Him with my mouth, And He was extolled with my tongue.

Romans 14:11 For it is written, “AS I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to ME, And every tongue shall give praise to God.”

Hebrews 13:15 Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.

Worship

Sing

Psalms 40:3 He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; Many will see and fear And will trust in the Lord.

Psalms 71:23 My lips will shout for joy when I sing praises to You; And my soul, which You have redeemed.

Psalms 89:1 I will sing of the lovingkindness of the Lord forever; To all generations I will make known Your faithfulness with my mouth.

Prayer

Psalms 54:2 Hear my prayer, O God; Give ear to the words of my mouth.

1Thessalonians 5:16-18 Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Acts 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Confession

Romans 10:10 for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

James 5:16 Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.

1John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Needs Control

James 3:1-12

Manifest righteousness

Proverbs 10:19-20 When there are many words, transgression is unavoidable, But he who restrains his lips is wise. The tongue of the righteous is as choice silver, The heart of the wicked is worth little.

Proverbs 10:31 The mouth of the righteous flows with wisdom, But the perverted tongue will be cut out.

Proverbs 12:13-22 An evil man is ensnared by the transgression of his lips, But the righteous will escape from trouble.

A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his words, And the deeds of a man's hands will return to him.

He who speaks truth tells what is right, But a false witness, deceit.

There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword, But the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Truthful lips will be established forever, But a lying tongue is only for a moment.

Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, But those who deal faithfully are His delight.

Proverbs 23:16 And my inmost being will rejoice When your lips speak what is right.

Psalms 35:28 And my tongue shall declare Your righteousness And Your praise all day long.

Psalms 71:24 My tongue also will utter Your righteousness all day long; For they are ashamed, for they are humiliated who seek my hurt.

Psalms 119:172 Let my tongue sing of Your word, For all Your commandments are righteousness.

Quietness

Proverbs 13:2-3 From the fruit of a man's mouth he enjoys good, But the desire of the treacherous is violence. The one who guards his mouth preserves his life; The one who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.

Proverbs 17:28 Even a fool, when he keeps silent, is considered wise; When he closes his lips, he is considered prudent.

Proverbs 21:23 He who guards his mouth and his tongue, Guards his soul from troubles.

Kindness

Proverbs 12:25 Anxiety in a man's heart weighs it down, But a good word makes it glad.

Proverbs 16:21 The wise in heart will be called understanding, And sweetness of speech increases persuasiveness.

Proverbs 16:24 Pleasant words are a honeycomb, Sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.

Proverbs 31:8-9 Open your mouth for the mute, For the rights of all the unfortunate. Open your mouth, judge righteously, And defend the rights of the afflicted and needy.

Colossians 4:6 Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.

Soft Answer

Proverbs 15:1 A gentle answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger.

Proverbs 25:15 By forbearance a ruler may be persuaded, And a soft tongue breaks the bone.

Our Words Matter

How do you use your tongue?

Matthew 12:34 You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart.

Is it a fountain of refreshment from God?

Even a little dirt can spoil a fresh spring?