

## 5. Check Your Spirit Continually

- a) Said To Bildad the Shuhite (Gentile)
  - Job 26:4, NIV – (4) *Who has helped you utter these words? And whose spirit spoke from your mouth?*
- b) Said To The Pharisees (Religious Hebrews)
  - Matthew 12:34, NIV – (34) *You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.*
- c) Said To Peter (A Disciple Of Christ)
  - Matthew 16:22-23, NIV – (22) *Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!” (23) Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men.”*

## 6. Learn How To Talk Like God

- a) Trustworthy Words, Good Promises
  - 2 Samuel 7:28, NIV – (28) *O Sovereign LORD, you are God! Your words are trustworthy, and you have promised these good things to your servant.*
- b) Supportive, Strengthening Words
  - Job 4:4, NIV – (4) *Your words have supported those who stumbled; you have strengthened faltering knees.*
- c) Sweet Words
  - Psalm 119:103, NIV – (103) *How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!*
- d) Enlightening, Instructive Words
  - Psalm 119:130, NIV – (130) *The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.*
- e) Joyful Words
  - Jeremiah 15:16, NIV – (16) *When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, O LORD God Almighty.*
- f) Strengthening, Encouraging, Comforting Words
  - 1 Corinthians 14:3, NIV – (3) *But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort.*
- g) Consistent Words Of Encouragement And Edification
  - Hebrews 3:13, NIV – (13) *But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.*
  - 1 Thessalonians 5:11, NIV – (11) *Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.*

## 7. Assign A Purpose To Your Words Before You Speak

- Isaiah 55:10-11, NIV – (10) *... so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, (11) So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.*

## Speak Up!

### Part 1 – Choose To Speak Life

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#### OUR TONGUES HAVE CREATIVE POWER

##### 1. We Are Created “Like” God

- Psalm 8:4-5, NIV – (4) *What is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? (5) You made him a little lower than God [Elohim] and crowned him with glory and honor.*
- Genesis 1:26, NIV – (26) *Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”*

##### 2. Our Words Have Life-Giving Power!

- Deuteronomy 8:3, NIV – (3) *... man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.*
- Proverbs 15:4, NIV – (4) *The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life, but a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.*

##### 2. Our Words Have Creative Power!

- Genesis 1:3, NIV – (3) *And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.*
- God spoke, and because His words had creative power, things were created

##### 3. We Are Created To Be Fruitful

- Genesis 1:28, NIV – (28) *God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”*
- Proverbs 18:21, NIV – *“The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.”*
- “Power” = “Yad” (Hebrew) = “outstretched hand, power to give or impart”

#### THE LIFE AND DEATH FRUIT OF THE TONGUE

##### 1. Righteousness Or Sin

- Psalm 17:3, NIV – (3) *Though you probe my heart and examine me at night, though you test me, you will find nothing; I have resolved that my mouth will not sin.*

##### 2. Blessing Or Curses

- Job 31:30, NIV – (30) *I have not allowed my mouth to sin by invoking a curse against his life.*
- James 3:10, NIV – (10) *Out of the same mouth come praise [blessing] and cursing. My brothers, this should not be.*

### 3. Life Or Violence

- Proverbs 10:11, NIV – (11) *The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but violence overwhelms the mouth of the wicked.*

### 4. Honesty Or Deceit

- Psalm 50:19, NIV – (19) *You use your mouth for evil and harness your tongue to deceit.*

### 5. Health Or Sickness

- Proverbs 12:18, NIV – (18) *“... The tongue of the wise is health.”*

### 6. Edification Or Ruin

- Proverbs 10:14, NIV – (14) *Wise men store up knowledge, but the mouth of a fool invites ruin.*

### 7. Exaltation Or Destruction

- Proverbs 11:9, NIV – (9) *With his mouth the godless destroys his neighbor, but through knowledge the righteous escape. ... (11) *Through the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, but by the mouth of the wicked it is destroyed.**

### 8. Peace Or Strife

- Proverbs 18:6, NIV – (6) *A fool's lips bring him strife, and his mouth invites a beating.*

### 9. Perdition Or Salvation

- Romans 10:9-10, NIV – (9) *That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (10) For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.*

### 10. Wounding Or Healing

- Psalm 52:2, NIV – (2) *Your tongue plots destruction; it is like a sharpened razor, you who practice deceit.*
- Proverbs 12:18, NIV – (18) *Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.*
- Proverbs 15:4, NIV – (4) *The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life, but a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.*
- Jeremiah 9: NIV – (8) *Their tongue is a deadly arrow; it speaks with deceit. ...*

### 11. Wealth Or Poverty

- Isaiah 32:6, NIV – (6) *For the fool speaks folly ...*
- Proverbs 17:16, NIV – (16) *Of what use is money in the hand of a fool, since he has no desire to get wisdom?*
- Proverbs 19:10, NIV – (10) *It is not fitting for a fool to live in luxury.*

### 12. Tragic Or Full Life

- James 3:6, NIV – (6) *The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.*
- 1 Peter 3:10, NIV – (10) *For, “Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech.”*

## GOD’S MANDATE FOR YOUR TONGUE

### 1. Learn To Speak “UP”

- Ephesians 4:29, NIV – (29) *Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others **UP** according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.*

### 2. Keep Watch Over Your Words

- Psalm 39:1, NIV – (1) *I said, "I will watch my ways and keep my tongue from sin; I will put a muzzle on my mouth ...”*
- Proverbs 21:23, NIV – (23) *He who guards his mouth and his tongue keeps himself from calamity.*
- Ecclesiastes 5:2, NIV – (2) *Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven and you are on earth, so let your words be few.*
- Proverbs 21:23, NIV – (23) *He who guards his mouth and his tongue keeps himself from calamity.*
- James 1:26, NIV – (26) *If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless.*

### 3. Ask God For His Help To Control Your Tongue

- Psalm 141:3, NIV – (3) *Set a guard over my mouth, O LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips.*
- Psalm 19:14, NIV – (14) *May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.*

### 4. Cleanse Your Tongue By Dealing With Your Heart Issues

- Luke 6:45, NIV – (45) *The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.*
- Matthew 15:11, 18, NIV – (11) *What goes into a man's mouth does not make him unclean, but what comes out of his mouth, that is what makes him unclean. ... (18) But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man unclean.*