**Your Words Are Very Important**

**Text: Matthew 12:33-37:**

Mt 12:33 Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit.

34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

35 A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.

36 But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

37 For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

(KJV)

**Prayer**

Your words are very important. They are very powerful and they can also be very deadly. ***The Bible says that life and death are in the power of the tongue. Proverbs 18:21*** . The Bible gives us instruction concerning our words and warns of its unruly nature. ***But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. James 3:8.***

Most of us don't really think very much about our words but I am sure that there have been times when most of us had wished we could have taken back some of our words. It may have caused others to be hurt or caused an embarrassing moment for someone.

Word are used in many ways, to encourage, to convince or persuade others, give authority or direction, and some gives us wisdom. Let's take a look how some of our words can change the course over people's lives.

Encouragement. In the Berlin Olympics many years ago, Hitler was trying to prove to the world he had a “superior” race. A man from the United States, Jessie Owens, was favored in an event. Every time Jessie went to compete, Hitler would turn his back to him. Jessie was struggling with one of the events of which he was favored and was on the brink of not even qualifying for the finals. Each time he looked up towards Hitler, Hitler would be pointing at him and laughed. But then Jessie heard some encouraging words, “you can do it”. Jessie finished his final jump and went on to win the Gold medal. This person who gave the encouragement was from one of the most unlikely sources, a German athlete. Our words are powerful, even from the stiffest critics.

Our words can convince and persuade others to do things they are uncomfortable or unwilling to do for others. There was a story of a little blind girl that left in her apartment for a few minutes while her father went out for groceries. A fire started inside the building and this little blind girl was trapped. She managed her way to the window to get fresh air and heard the firefighters below yell for her to jump into the net below but she wouldn't. The fire and smoke was engulfing the apartment to the point of the girl being succumbed to the smoke and heat when all of a sudden she heard a familiar voice of her father saying, “jump, jump, daddy is here.” Without any hesitation and to the amazement to everyone around, the girl jumped to her safety to the net below. His words were powerful, even when others failed.

Our words can bring life and death. Not long ago, a minister became a new pastor of a church and the church was growing. In this growth, the church found a new music director. The church decided to buy her a new electric piano because the old upright piano, even donated to the church, had seen better days. When they were moving the old piano to the fellowship hall, the person who had bought the piano threw herself over the piano, refused to move, and stated, “If you move this, it will be over my dead body”. Folks, we have to be careful with our words. 4 days later, they were carrying her out of the church—in a casket!

There is power in our words and in the God's Word. I remember reading a book on Smith Wigglesworth, a great man of God, who daily lived out God's word. On one account, the book mentioned of his wife dying. He prayed for her to come back to life and she did. The Lord took her back and Smith Wigglesworth prayed life back into her again. The Lord took her again and this went back and forth until God said to “let her go” and Smith Wigglesworth realized it was time to let her go. What power! Life and death are determined by the power of the tongue. What power do we hold? Is it possible for us to have that same kind of power—through God's Word and in the name of Jesus? I believe all things are possible for them who believe!

Jesus had power! When He was on this earth, people were amazed at His words. When people tried to tick him, his words defused their evil intentions. His words had power—commanding the seas to “Be Still”, open blinded eyes, or cursing the tree that had no fruit. Everywhere Jesus went, he quoted the Word of God and had the authority to speak words that changed lives.

Peter in all his inadequacies, had power in his words and in the name of Jesus when he went by the gate beautiful and said to a man, “silver & gold have I none but what I have in the name of Jesus rise up and walk.” Let me ask you today, what power do you have?

What does Word say in giving instruction to our words? God wants us to first of all be careful of “ ***idle words*** ”. We need to be careful what we say about each other and the church. Some things are better not said. In fact, if you don't have anything good to say, then say nothing. ***1Peter 3:10 says “For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:*** We are personal witnesses of God and should encourage others not to fall into the “pit” of using idle words or tearing down our brothers and sisters.

Secondly, God expects to carry out His word. If we truly call ourselves Christians, we must obey His word. This may mean for us to refrain from certain things and follow His will. If we ask God for guidance, He and His Word will keep us in line and through His Words, we can have the power to be overcomers. ***“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path”. Psalms 119:105.*** Also in Psalms 119:11, it says, ***“ Thy Word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee.”*** We need this type of relationship! But too often we don't hear His Words but ours.

Thirdly, we must ***“speak His Word”.*** All things are possible through His Word. In fact, Jesus stated, “greater things ye shall do in my name”. ***Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. John 14:12.*** The Bible gives us instruction that we can do all things like call unto this mountain, “be thou removed and cast into the sea” ***Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done. Matthew 21:21.*** It doesn't make any difference what type of mountain we may be facing, God can still remove it!

The Word says, ***“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me”. Phillipians 4:13*** . What power do we have? To do all things! The same power that Christ has given to us in His Word and He is making available to us to use because he is making intercession for us in Heaven. He says in ***Mt 18:18 “Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”***

Folks, we are born again and are daily walking according to His Word, we have the power to do all things! So what is causing us to settle for less and why aren't we doing them? Is it a lack of faith or is it a lack of using the Word. Many times, we have not because we ask not. God expects you and I to walk victorious and in prosperity. He says in 3 John 1:2, ***“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.”***

The church needs to walk in a victorious manner, a light for everyone to see. It needs to be the place of refuge, rest, healing, deliverance, love, and direction. The only way we can, is by living out and declaring God's Word. God expects us to do more than just attend church. I believe He desires for us to be fruitful according to His Word. If He should walk by you today, would He curse you like the fig tree, not producing any fruit or will be say well done thy good and faithful servant.

People in this community need to see real people who are real Christians that really care! If God's Word is living through you daily, you can encourage, motivate others when no one can, offer the kind of power and deliverance others need, and make a difference in this community. I believe God expects us to make that kind of difference!

With heads bowed and no one looking around, I wonder if there are any here who would like to raise your hand with mine to say, “I want my words to make a difference in the hearts and lives of others”, could I see your hands.

Prayer: Lord, allow your Word to be a guidepost in our lives, let us daily look for opportunities to help encourage others and share of your blessed hope. Lord, may we have the courage to trust your Word enough to believe that all things are possible and dare to believe you for the impossible. Let me be a vessel of honor for the Master's use. In your precious name, we believe. Amen.