

## WHO IS THE LORD OF YOUR LIPS?

The tongue can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequences. **Proverbs 18:21 (NLT)** 

## **Three Truths about Words**

- 1. Words are a gift from God.
- 2. Words can build up or tear down.
- 3. The **<u>quality</u>** of your <u>life</u> is determined by the <u>**quality**</u> of your <u>words</u>.

## Who is Lord of your Lips?

"for every careless word" - being either justified or condemned by our words (Matthew 12:36–37)

"what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart" (Matt. 15:18)

Jesus came not only to be the Savior of our **souls** but the **Lord** of our **lips**.

Who is in **control** of your **tongue**?

We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth. And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong. In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches... James 3:3-5 (NLT)

Going Deeper On Your Own: James 3:1–12 tells us that if we can control our tongues, we can control our whole lives. So, we need to give a lot more thought to our language, its meaning and effects, and its relation to God's own Word. This week take the time to study the contrast between godly and ungodly words as found in the book of Proverbs and listed in the chart below. Then take the time to evaluate your speech and how you interact with others in your sphere of influence. Ask those who you trust for an honest evaluation of your speech in light of God's word. Ask them to tell you in what ways your speech honors God and in what ways it seems to conflict with God's word. After you finish this process, then make a commitment every day to speak words that will bring life rather than death. Write me at Rusty@centerpointchurch.com and tell me your story.

Proverbs	GODLY WORDS	Ungodly Words
10:32	The <i>lips</i> of the righteous know what is acceptable.	The <i>mouth</i> of the wicked [knows] what is perverse.
12:18	The <i>tongue</i> of the wise brings healing.	Rash <i>words</i> are like sword thrusts.
13:1	A wise son <i>hears</i> his father's instruction.	A <i>scoffer</i> does not <i>listen</i> to rebuke.
13:3	Whoever guards his <i>mouth</i> preserves his life.	He who opens wide his <i>lips</i> comes to ruin.
13:10	Those who take advice are wise.	By insolence comes nothing but strife.
13:18	Whoever <i>heeds reproof</i> is honored.	Poverty and disgrace come to him who <i>ig-nores instruction</i> .
14:3	The <i>lips</i> of the wise will preserve them.	By the <i>mouth</i> of a fool comes a rod for his back.
14:25	A truthful witness saves lives.	One who <i>breathes out lies</i> is deceitful.
15:1	A soft answer turns away wrath.	A <i>harsh word</i> stirs up anger.