

Speaking Life-Giving Truth

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

We have the choice to speak LIFE or DEATH.

Ephesians 4:29 (NLT) Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.

How can we do this?

We must understand that it's God's words that give life, not OUR'S.

John 3:6 (NLT) Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life.

Because...God is the **CREATOR** and **SOURCE** of life.

Genesis 1:1-3 (NLT) In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

John 1:1-4 (NLT) In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. He existed in the beginning with

God. God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone.

John 14:6 (NLT) Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me."

We have been called to speak Life-Giving Truth into...

1. OURSELVES.

-Worship in song.

Acts 16:25 (NLT) Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening.

- 2 Chronicles 20:20-21 (NLT) Early the next morning the army of Judah went out into the wilderness of Tekoa. On the way Jehoshaphat stopped and said, "Listen to me, all you people of Judah and Jerusalem! Believe in the Lord your God, and you will be able to stand firm. Believe in his prophets, and you will succeed.
- -Worship in God's Word. (Psalm 119:25-32 ESV)

2. Those **AROUND** us.

- -We can direct them towards <u>God</u>. (James 3:3-4)
- -Telling people what they <u>NEED</u> to hear, not what they <u>want</u> to hear.

Ephesians 4:15 (NLT) Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.

-Introducing them to the Life-GIVER. (Romans 10:13-15, John 14:6)

John 10:10 (NLT) The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.