



THE SOURCE

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

*In the same way, the tongue (our words, spoken or written) is a small thing that makes grand speeches. But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. And among all the parts of the body, the tongue is a flame of fire... **James 3:5-6 (NLT)***

*Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone. **Colossians 4:6 (NLT)***

*All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, but no **human being** can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. **James 3:7-10 (NIV)***

How to Speak Words of Life

Think, act, and speak like Christ's ambassador.

*So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making His appeal through us... **2 Corinthians 5:20 (NLT)***

1. I need to get as intimately close to Jesus as I possibly can.

*Remain (abide) in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. **John 15:4 (NIV)***

2. I need to let Him change the source of my words - it's my heart.

*Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. **Luke 6:44-45 (NIV)***

*I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. **Ezekiel 36:26 (NIV)***

3. I must listen to understand who is in front of me.

*Even though I am a free man with no master, I have become a slave to all people to bring many to Christ...Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some. **1 Corinthians 9:19-22 (NLT)***

4. I must speak HIS TRUTH and trust Him.

*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. **Ephesians 4:15 (NLT)***

*Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone. **Colossians 4:6 (NLT)***

Going deeper on my own. Get a pen and paper and begin by writing out Proverbs 18:21. Then look up James 1:19-21 and read it slowly five times out loud so you can hear the words. Now read Luke 6:44-45. Write out what words, if any, have been planted in you that seem to be hurtful. Now confess them to our Lord and give them to Him. Intentionally tell Him you are no longer accepting them as true and that you are trusting Him with what He has said about you. Look up Ephesians 2:10 and write it out on the top of the page. Now, look up one last verse, Ezekiel 36:26. Pray and ask our Lord for a new heart of flesh. Write me at Jay@centerpointchurch.com and tell me what this has meant to you.