

## **Week 22**

### **Joshua 10:16-43**

***A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver. Proverbs 25:11***

Oh no. I'm not even sure we should go here. My mouth has taken me down the wrong road waaaaay too often. That being said, the Lord takes what comes out of our mouths very seriously, *we should too*.

When we looked at Joshua 10:25 this week, we saw Joshua encouraging his army with the very same words that the Lord had repeatedly encouraged him. We touched on this idea in study, we are going to go a little deeper here.

Why is what we say so vital? Open up your Word to Matthew 12:34 - 37.

1) What does verse 34 tell us about where our words come from? \_\_\_\_\_

2) What does it say about our words in verse 36?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Gulp!

Here is the Google definition of idle, and some lovely synonyms too:

without purpose or effect; pointless.

"he did not want to waste valuable time in idle chatter"

*syno* frivolous, trivial, trifling, minor, petty, foolish, lightweight, shallow, superficial, insignificant, unimportant, worthless, valueless, pointless, paltry, niggling, peripheral, without

: depth, inane, fatuous, senseless, meaningless, purposeless, unnecessary,

Oh lovely ladies, there are so many places to go with that scary, scary thought. I have let my mouth run without purpose far too often! We live in a society that encourages venting, and verbal processing, gossip and general verbal vomiting. As Christians, we are called to a higher standard.

Ladies, we need to be super careful that the words that come out of our mouths are uplifting and encouraging. The final verse in our text, verse 37 basically lets us know that we will know the state of someone's heart by the words that come out of their mouths!

3) Read Proverbs 10:19 - 21, what does it say?

---

4) Open up to James 1:19, 20, what is the instruction here?

---

5) What do you see in James 1:26?

---

Oh my. Useless.

6) Read Philippians 2:14 - 16, why do you think this command is so important? The answer is in the verses and it's a good one!

---

---

I am just touching on this topic ladies, it is obviously very important to the Lord!

Joshua was one of the greatest generals of all time, I would even say that he was **the** greatest general of all time, hands-down. He was a phenomenal leader and he knew the power of words, especially God's words. He used the Lord's encouraging words to inspire an entire army on to inconceivable victories, I know that that is what you and I are called to do for each other as well.

7) What does 1 Thessalonians 5:11 tell us?

---

Oh how I love the encouragement at the end of that verse, *just as you are doing*.

8) Read Ephesians 4:29, so good!

---

Oh ladies, when you impart that grace to me, I just melt. I am encouraged by you to keep fighting the good fight! Words have so much power, to hurt and hinder or to encourage and build up!

9) How often should we be encouraging one another? Read Hebrews 3:13 \_\_\_\_\_

Even if we are grumpy or sad, or hurt and in pain, we can STILL use our words for good, for edification, to love others!

Have you ever seen the result of loving on others in the midst of our trials? We may not be able to invest too much in checking on them or trying to do things for them in the midst of our chaos or trial, but if our words are simply kind, it changes everything!

10) Read Proverbs 31:26, how does the Proverbs 31 woman speak? \_\_\_\_\_

11) How do we control our tongues you ask? Well, look with me at James 3:2-7, what does it tell you about trying to control the tongue?

---

Yikes, what a description!

Outside of the Lord, it is impossible but with the Lord and His Holy Spirit, we stand a chance 😊. I pray regularly that the Lord would guard my mouth and fill me with His words and I blow it *all the time!* But we can't give up, we have seen how important our mouths/words are to Him. Here are a couple of tools.

Tool #1 is self-control. Self-control is a fruit of the Spirit, we need to be filled up with the Holy Spirit and then we need to listen to Him! Sometimes we feel like if we don't say what is on our mind then we are going to shrivel up and die when really the opposite is true!

This week, take those words to the Lord, tell Him and see if that doesn't meet your need to express yourself!

Ask yourself, is this going to help anyone?

Do I truly need to say it?

Remember that when you say something to a human, you get a human response, a Band-Aid at best. When you say something to the Lord, you get an eternal response and an eternal fix.

Tool #2:

12) Go back to Matthew 12:34 -37 again, there is a tool for us in these verses. What do you see?

---

13) Hint, read Proverbs 4:23, what is the tool God gives us to help us with our words? \_\_\_\_\_

Don't be discouraged lovely ladies, God has clearly told us that there is not one of us that is perfect, and His grace and mercy cover us every single day. He hasn't given us the unattainable so that we will walk around with our heads down in defeat, He has given us the impossible so that He can empower us by His Spirit and be glorified!

I would go to the deeps a hundred times to cheer a downcast spirit. It is good for me to have been afflicted, that I might know how to speak a word in season to one that is weary. ~ Charles Spurgeon