

**Title:** Not loving our lives II – the power of the tongue  
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*\*The words we speak will always be followed by something or someone.*

Words are more powerful than what we think.

### **Words create.**

**Genesis 1:1–3 (NKJV)** <sup>1</sup> *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.* <sup>2</sup> *The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.* <sup>3</sup> *Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.*

### **Words don’t fade away:** they are recorded in eternity

**Matthew 12:36 (NKJV)** <sup>36</sup> *But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.*

### **Words affect people:** Our words are always followed by something. Causing either life or death.

**Proverbs 12:18 (NKJV)** <sup>18</sup> *There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, but the tongue of the wise promotes health.*

**Proverbs 11:9 (NKJV)** <sup>9</sup> *The hypocrite with his mouth destroys his neighbor, But through knowledge the righteous will be delivered.*

### **Words affect our surroundings: cities and regions**

**Proverbs 11:11 (NKJV)** <sup>11</sup> *By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted, but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.*

### **Words open doors (or close them)**

**Psalms 24:7–10 (NKJV)** <sup>7</sup> *Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in.* <sup>8</sup> *Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle.* <sup>9</sup> *Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in.* <sup>10</sup> *Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory. Selah*

**Joshua 6:10 (NKJV)** <sup>10</sup> *Now Joshua had commanded the people, saying, “You shall not shout or make any noise with your voice, nor shall a word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I say to you, ‘Shout!’ Then you shall shout.”*

**Joshua 6:16 (NKJV)** <sup>16</sup> *And the seventh time it happened, when the priests blew the trumpets, that Joshua said to the people: “**Shout, for the LORD has given you the city!**”*

**Joshua 6:20 (NKJV)** <sup>20</sup> *So the people shouted when the priests blew the trumpets. And it happened when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat. Then the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.*

- Our words are always followed by something. Gates are opened.

### **Words followed by death**

**Proverbs 18:21 (NKJV)** <sup>21</sup> *Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.*

**James 3:2 (NLT)** <sup>2</sup> *Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way.*

James 3:4–8 (NLT) <sup>4</sup> And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong.<sup>5</sup> In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches. But a tiny spark can set a **great forest on fire**.<sup>6</sup> And the tongue **is a flame of fire**. It is a whole **world of wickedness**, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself.<sup>7</sup> People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish,<sup>8</sup> but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison.

**Order:** first the word, **then** the fire of God or the fire of hell... our words are always followed by something or someone else...

## Words followed by life

***One of our values as a church – the power of belief:*** "We focus our thoughts and words on that which is praiseworthy. At every meeting, small group and service we make an effort to declare that which is praiseworthy. Our aim is to create an environment of praise, of hope and belief that says our God can do anything, even in the greatest of challenges."

Ephesians 4:29 (NKJV) <sup>29</sup> Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.

**What I do have I give you – the words we speak will always be followed by something or someone... Jesus.**

Acts 3:6–8 (NKJV) <sup>6</sup> Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."<sup>7</sup> And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.<sup>8</sup> So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them—walking, leaping, and praising God.

**Peter didn't ask. He spoke.** He spoke not in his own name, but in the name of Jesus Christ.

**He didn't have his own agenda. He had a God ambition.**

- **Do not negate the will and power of God because of your unbelieving words... doubt? Be quiet. Believe? Speak!!**

**Dying to self:**

**A guard over our mouths – pray daily.** Bite your tongue... control your whole life.

Psalms 141:3 (NKJV) <sup>3</sup> Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips.