



Shofar Christian Church

SPEAK LIFE

Jolande Jardim

James 3:2 – 12

For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water

- The meaning of the things we say has a big effect on both ourselves or on others. For good or for bad.

Proverbs 18:21

The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

SPEAK LIFE – Over Yourself

How many of us speak negatively about ourselves?

Amos 3:3

Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?

SPEAK LIFE – Over Yourself

Zephania 3:17

The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness.

DEALING WITH THOSE AROUND US WHO DO NOT SPEAK LIFE

Two things we can do to deal with such people:

1. Surround ourselves with friends who uplift and encourage us. Overriding the ridicule of the person.
2. Speak to them to stop. If you can't get them to stop, you go into another room and declare God's Truth over yourself!

DEALING WITH THOSE AROUND US WHO DO NOT SPEAK LIFE

Two examples from the Bible:

1. Matthew 18:15

If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.

2. Galatians 6:1

Brothers, if anyone is caught in transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.

- With unsaved people. Take it case by case. Humility, prayer, wise counsel, and tact are the best assets when dealing with someone who does not know Christ.

SPEAK LIFE – Over Others

Matthew 12:34

For out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks.

- What comes out of our mouths is an accurate indication of the health of our own hearts.
- The bridling of our tongue is an indication of our spiritual maturity.

SPEAK LIFE – Over Others

Colossians 3:1 – 17

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free: but Christ is all, and in all.

SPEAK LIFE – Over Others

Colossians 3:1 – 17

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other: as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

SPEAK LIFE – Over Others

James 1:26

If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless.

- You may have a way with words but If they are empty and you have no self-control, they are worthless.

James 3:6

And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set amongst our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell.

SPEAK LIFE – Over Others

The tongue is the most destructive and dangerous part of our body.

1. It is like a bit in the mouth of a horse.
2. Like the rudder of a ship

Matthew 15:18

But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and defiles the person.

SPEAK LIFE – Over Others

The power of the tongue:

1. It is a fire:

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire...

2. A world of unrighteousness.

3. A stain

The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue.

4. A restless evil and deadly poison

It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. fresh water

OUR ONLY HOPE : THE DOUBLE – EDGED SWORD

Hebrews 4:12-13

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Romans 3:19

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God

OUR ONLY HOPE : THE DOUBLE – EDGED SWORD

Paul now points out . . . that when you realize what the Law is truly saying to you the result is that “every mouth shall be stopped.” You are rendered speechless. You are not a Christian unless you have been made speechless! How do you know whether you are a Christian or not? It is that you “stop talking.” The trouble with the non-Christian is that he goes on talking. . . .

How do you know whether a man is a Christian? The answer is that his mouth is “shut.” I like this forthrightness of the Gospel. People need to have their mouths shut, “stopped.” . . . You do not begin to be a Christian until your mouth is shut, is stopped, and you are speechless and have nothing to say.

- Martyn Lloyd Jones (1970)

OUR ONLY HOPE : THE DOUBLE – EDGED SWORD

John 17:17

Sanctify them in the truth; Your Word is truth

Isaiah 6: 1-7

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said:

*“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!”*

And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

WE NEED TO RECOGNIZE THAT WE ARE NEW CREATIONS IN CHRIST

James 1: 16 - 21

Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

Psalm 51:10

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

PRAYER POINTS

1. That God will help us realize and see the pollution of our lips and help subdue our hearts.
2. That we will have a hunger to dig into the Word of God and let it transform us. Let it dwell within us richly.
3. That we will speak with a Jesus accent wherever we are.