

Made for More Words Matter

Our words matter (Proverbs 18:21). The Bible is clear: the tongue has power to bring life or death. The struggle, however, is that even though our words are powerful – like a rudder of a boat, a horse's bit, or small spark that starts a forest fire – the tongue is untamable in our own strength (James 3:7-8). On our own, we are powerless to use our words to bring life. Only by the Holy Spirit and the saving grace of Jesus can our language be transformed and become life-giving. A changed heart leads to words of life (Luke 6:45). When our words bring life, they encourage others, are kind and compassionate, and express forgiveness.

GET THINGS STARTED

What did God stir in you this week through the *Purify Workbook* concerning soul ties? Was the concept of soul ties new to you? What action steps is God leading you to take?

What word or phrase has been spoken to you (good or bad) that has stuck with you years later? What has been your reaction to those words? How have they affected your perception of yourself and/or God?

WATCH TESTIMONY VIDEO: WEEK 10

GO DEEPER

1. How do our words possess power, from Proverbs 18:21? How do we determine whether our words are producing life or death? What role does tone and heart attitude play in what our words accomplish, and can the right words (truth) spoken in the wrong way bring death rather than life?
2. James 3:3-8 conveys distinctly, through three analogies, that the tongue wields great power and control, and yet it is untamable by any person. What makes the tongue untamable and a restless evil full of poison? What is necessary for our words to be transformed and to bring life?
3. What does Ephesians 4:29-32 reveal about what our words should be like and accomplish?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. How would you characterize your words? Do your words bring life or death? How would your spouse, friends, family, coworkers, or neighbors characterize your words? What do your words reveal about what is in your heart?
2. How would you rate your words when it comes to encouragement, kindness, compassion, and forgiveness? What needs to shift so that your words express these things? What step (s) do you need to take to experience a transformation of your words? Does the content of your words or the tone and attitude of your words need to change more, and why?
3. How have words spoken to you hurt you (and continue to affect you)? How have words spoken by you hurt others? What might you need to do to change the impact of either of these scenarios?

PRACTICE IT NOW

Take time as a group ask God to shape your words so that they bring life rather than death. Ask Him to transform you on the heart level so that your words are seasoned with encouragement, kindness, compassion, and forgiveness. Ask Him to reveal anything spoken over you that has affected you in unhealthy ways and to show you what to do about those words. Ask Him also to show you where words you have spoken have been hurtful or damaging. Invite God to show you what steps you may need to take to pursue forgiveness for those hurtful words.

PURIFY WORKBOOK – FOR THIS WEEK

Session 10: Cursing vs. Blessing – Breaking Generational Sin and Iniquity