



Generous Edification
Ephesians 4:25-32 (NASB)
September 21, 2014

Introduction:

I do not know of any other way to destroy a person's life, integrity, and character faster than that of one's speech. Speech always reveals our character. For many people their speech is nothing less than verbal dynamite.

Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue.

God's people are to be construction workers, building people up, rather than deconstruction workers, tearing people down.

I. The What of our Speech

Ephesians 4:29 Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.

Old Adage:

"Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me."

Proverbs 4:23-24 Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life. ²⁴ Put away from you a deceitful mouth and put devious speech far from you.

Matthew 12:34 You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart.

Principle:

Truth and love are to be the goalposts in which every Christian is to speak.

Gary Chapman:

"If you tell someone the truth without caring about them, then they may have the truth, but they may react more to what you just said to them, than to the truth that you just told them".

II. The Why of our Speech

Colossians 4:6 Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.

Principle:

Put some flavor in your words and make them as tasty as possible.

If I am to live a Spirit filled life, then God must have proper access to my mouth.

Psalm 19:14 (NASB) Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my Redeemer.