



Week 3: Wisdom and Words

Primary Passages: Proverbs 18:21; Proverbs 12:18

Related Passages: Proverbs 15:4, James 3:3-12, Matthew 12:33-37

"I consider looseness with words no less of a defect than looseness of the bowels"

- John Calvin

LifeGroup Study Guide:

Recap: Have someone read Proverbs 18:21 and recap the highlights from this week's sermon.

- Where have you seen examples of speech that gives life or takes life? Why do you think our words are so powerful?
- Are there any situations in life where words are regularly taking a toll on you?

Read Proverbs 12:18. Take some assessment of your words

- What's your ratio of affirmation to criticism?
- Are your roommates, spouse and/or children thriving as a result of your words?
- Are you more likely to fail to say what you need to, or fail by saying what you don't need to? (i.e. Do you tend to be cowardly quiet, or run-your-mouth foolish?)
- When are you most likely to be harsh in an answer? What circumstances and arenas of life give you less wisdom and ability to speak in grace?

Immediate Application: Spend 2-3 minutes on each person in your LifeGroup encouraging them and speaking life into their soul. Tell them how God has uniquely wired them, where you've seen God at work in them, how God has used them to benefit your life. Feel free to think of words God has spoken as true of us in the gospel and read those encouragements to each other (Consider Romans 8:1-2, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Matthew 3:17).

Pray that our church family would be one that is marked by speech that is life-giving.

Pray that the Holy Spirit would move in us to seek forgiveness from those we've been harsh to and to forgive those who have spoken harshly against us.