

OUR WORDS IN THE WORLD TOMORROW
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We have to use our imaginations a little as we look towards the World tomorrow. We know it will be very different from today (thankfully).

One area ... that affects us all day ... every day ... right here and now ... which will also be so very different in the world to come ... is how we speak ... how we communicate with each other. The words that we choose to use. We should choose and select our words carefully.

When we are spirit beings ... dealing with each other ... and especially with millions of troubled human beings ... it will be very important how we communicate ... obviously the main way is the words we use.

Many people will look to us ... as the immortal kings and priests. They'll come with anxieties ... heartaches ... pains ... loss and confusion.

It will be our place to help to build up ... encourage ... use words of kindness ... truth ... wisdom ... ALL SPOKEN IN LOVE.

Proverbs 16:13 (NKJV)

13 **Righteous lips are the delight of kings.**
And they love him who speaks what is right.

Proverbs 16:13 (NLT)

13 **The king is pleased with words from righteous lips;**
he loves those who speak honestly.

Proverbs 16:13 (MSG)

13 **Good leaders cultivate honest speech;**
they love advisors who tell them the truth.

We're the kings of the future. We should cultivate a love for honest speech ... righteous lips ... words that build up ... not tear down.

We know God is looking for fruit in our lives. **Fruit is what we say and what we do ... our words and our actions.**

So we should seek to cultivate good fruit in our speech.

Luke 4:16-22 (NKJV)

16 **So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up.** And as His custom was, **He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read.**

17 And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:

18 **“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me,**

Because He has anointed Me

To preach the gospel to the poor;

He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,

To proclaim liberty to the captives

And recovery of sight to the blind,

To set at liberty those who are oppressed;

19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.”

20 Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him.

21 And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

22 **So all bore witness to Him, and marvelled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth.** And they said, “Is this not Joseph's son?”

Jesus undoubtedly used thoughtful ... carefully selected... words. Well-chosen ... true ... sincere words ... filled with grace ... and ... when necessary ... pointed! Appropriate words for the situation.

Looking at Jesus' example ... what about our words?

Proverbs 16:21 (NKJV)

21 The wise in heart will be called prudent,
And **sweetness of the lips increases learning.**

Proverbs 16:21 (RSV)

21 **pleasant speech increases persuasiveness**

Proverbs 16:21 (NCV)

21 **their pleasant words make them better teachers**

A good skill for a king? And for us even now ... in 2017?

Ecclesiastes 10:11-13 (NKJV)

11 A serpent may bite when it is not charmed;

The babbler is no different. (*Empties out what is in their brain without thinking about what they are saying*)

12 **The words of a wise man's mouth are gracious,** (*charming ... elegant ... favourable*)

But the lips of a fool shall swallow him up;

13 The words of his mouth begin with foolishness.

And the end of his talk is raving madness.

Ecclesiastes 10:12 (AMP)

12 **The words of a wise man's mouth are gracious and win him favour,** **but the lips of a fool consume him.**

Ecclesiastes 12:9-12 (NKJV)

9 And moreover, **because the Preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yes, he pondered and sought out and set in order many proverbs.**

10 **The Preacher sought to find acceptable words; and what was written was upright—words of truth.**

11 **The words of the wise are like goads, and the words of scholars are like well-driven nails, given by one Shepherd.**

12 And further, my son, be admonished by these. Of making many books there is no end, and much study is wearisome to the flesh.

There is much value in talking to someone face-to-face ... which can be helped by body language. A downside can be the “speed” which can sometimes allow slips and trips ... we don't always get it “quite right” ... and our words can be inappropriate.

Sometimes there's benefit in taking a little time to craft the words ... put them in writing to get them “just right”.

Proverbs 25:11-12 (NKJV)

11 **A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.**

12 Like an earring of gold and an ornament of fine gold is a wise rebuker to an obedient ear.

Proverbs 25:11 (NET)

11 **Like apples of gold in settings of silver,
so is a word skillfully spoken.**

Proverbs 25:11 (NCV)

11 **the right word spoken at the right time**

Not just emptying out the first words that come into our mouth.

Proverbs 8:1,6-9 (NKJV)

1 Does not wisdom cry out,
And understanding lift up her voice?
6 Listen, for I will speak of excellent things,
And **from the opening of my lips will come right things;**
7 **For my mouth will speak truth;**
Wickedness is an abomination to my lips.
8 **All the words of my mouth are with righteousness;**
Nothing crooked or perverse is in them.
9 **They are all plain to him who understands,**
And right to those who find knowledge.

Wisdom is personified ... it speaks excellent things ... truth. But ...all of us should have some wisdom. Speaking excellent things ... right things ...all of our words with righteousness.

If we're future kings ... we are supposed to have wisdom.

Proverbs 31:1 (NKJV)

1 **The words of King Lemuel,** the utterance which his mother taught him:

People debate who Lemuel was and who his mother was. Lemuel was one of Solomon's 6 names per Bullinger. E.g. Qoheleth (the Preacher) ... Jedidiah ... which is what God called him.

So. These are the words his mother ... Bathsheba ... would have taught him.

Proverbs 31:10 (NKJV)

10 Who can find a virtuous wife?

For her worth is far above rubies.

Proverbs 31:26 (NKJV)

26 **She opens her mouth with wisdom,**
And on her tongue is the law of kindness. (*Quite important*)

Ephesians 4:20-26 (NKJV)

20 But you have not so learned Christ,
21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus:
22 **that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,**
23 **and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,**
24 and that you **put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.**
25 Therefore, **putting away lying,** “**Let each one of you speak truth** with his neighbour,” for we are members of one another.
26 “**Be angry, and do not sin**”: **do not let the sun go down on your wrath,**

Ephesians 4:29-32 (NKJV)

29 **Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth,** but what is good for necessary edification, **that it may impart grace to the hearers.**
30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.
31 **Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamour, (loud quarrelling) and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.**
32 **And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.**

Ephesians 4:29 (Voice)

29 **Don't let even one rotten word seep out of your mouths.** Instead, offer **only fresh words that build others up** when they need it most.
That way your good words will communicate grace to those who hear them.

Our words can impart grace ... encouragement ... make a difference ... the right words spoken at the right time.

Ephesians 5:1 (NKJV)

1 **Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.**

Ephesians 5:3-4 (NKJV)

3 **But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints;**

4 **neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.**

No vulgar speech ... obscenity ... foolish talk ... coarse joking.

If we are training to be kings ... if we're learning the life of the World Tomorrow ... how should we speak? Paul has given us a pretty good illustration here.

What do our words say about us? If a day's words were recorded ... and played back publicly ... how would we feel? A little bit uncomfortable?

An Attitude of Gratitude ... Words of Thanks.

Colossians 3:5-10 (NKJV)

5 **Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.**

6 Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience,

7 in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

8 But now you yourselves are to **put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.** (*Foul-mouthed abuse*)

9 **Do not lie to one another,** since you have put off the old man with his deeds,

10 and have **put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,**

Foul-mouths are common today ... in the street ... celebrities ... sports men/women. It seems like no one bats an eye to this today. But there will be no place in the World Tomorrow ... should be no place in our lives today.

Colossians 3:12-17 (NKJV)

12 **Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;**
13 **bearing with one another, and forgiving one another**, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.
14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.
15 And **let the peace of God rule in your hearts**, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. (*Amplified Bible: "act as umpire continually in your hearts [deciding and settling with finality all questions that arise in your minds]"*)
16 **Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly** in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.
17 And **whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.**

Be kind! What you say and do = your fruits.

Colossians 4:6 (NKJV)

6 **Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt**, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.

Colossians 4:6 (MSG)

6 **Be gracious in your speech. The goal is to bring out the best in others in a conversation, not put them down, not cut them out.**

Colossians 4:6 (NLT)

6 **Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.**

That should be an aspiration. Our words should be much more fitting than when we were first called.

1 Peter 3:8-12 (NKJV)

8 Finally, all of you be of one mind, **having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous;**

9 not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, (*insult for insult*) but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.

10 For

“He who would love life

And see good days,

Let him refrain his tongue from evil.

And his lips from speaking deceit.

11 Let him turn away from evil and do good;

Let him seek peace and pursue it.

12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,

And His ears are open to their prayers;

But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

1 Peter 3:9 (NLT)

9 **Don't retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing.**

James 3:1-10 (NKJV)

1 My brethren, **let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.**

2 For we all stumble in many things. **If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.**

3 Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body.

4 Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires.

5 Even so **the tongue is a little member and boasts great things.**

See how great a forest a little fire kindles!

6 And **the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell.**

7 For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind.

8 **But no man can tame the tongue. (No unconverted tongue) It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.**

9 **With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God.**

10 **Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing.** My brethren, these things ought not to be so.

We need to tame ... control .. our tongues. Be skilled in using Words of Grace ... words that are fitting ... kind. Not abusive ... rude ... critical ... judgmental words.

James 1:26 (NKJV)

26 **If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless.** (*That's fairly blunt*)

In the World Tomorrow there will be truth ... but also kindness ... courtesy ... words fitly spoken ... to build up ... encourage ... inspire ... share love ... faithfulness ... hope.

A very different world. Even vocabulary. Lots of words in use today won't even exist then like "rape" or "torture" ... all the "straightforward" perversions ... swear words ... pure expressions. No lying ... gossip ... abuse ... foul words. Although ... a number of people won't go God's way.

Once the whole world is talking to each other ... truth ... love ... kindness ... all words "just right" ... it will be a whole new experience.

Zephaniah 3:8-9 (NKJV)

8 "Therefore wait for Me," says the Lord,
"Until the day I rise up for plunder;
My determination is to gather the nations
To My assembly of kingdoms,
To pour on them My indignation,
All My fierce anger;
All the earth shall be devoured
With the fire of My jealousy.

9 **For then I will restore to the peoples a pure language,**
That they all may call on the name of the Lord,
To serve Him with one accord.

A pure language is coming.

At long last ... Babel “reversed”. Pure words ... clean ... fitting ...
gracious ... words full of truth and love and kindness.

What a great world!

And for you and me today ... we can be practicing right now!