Words

I have gone through some stuff I have written on the book of Proverbs and copied and pasted them here. I have repeated myself, but when I do I have tried to say it a little differently. Here are some Bible verses that relate to words and what we say.

When Joshua took over for Moses he faced one of the hardest situations anyone has ever faced. He had to take over from a leader who had been in charge for forty years. He was leading over a million Israelites and had to lead them to conquer numerous nations who lived in the land God had given them. Here is God's advice to Joshua:

Joshua 1:6 Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. 7 Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. 8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God *is* with you wherever you go." NKJV

If we keep the Word of God in our mouth and do what it says to do, we will be prosperous and have good success. God does say just study the Word but to say what God says.

Matthew 12:34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. 35 A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. 36 But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment 37 For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

This may answer the question, "Why do bad things happen to good people?"

I like to watch my words and other people's words. It is interesting to see what is on the inside of us coming out in words. I catch myself saying all kinds of weird things. Today I caught myself inwardly thinking, about a person who ran a red light, "Dummy". I should have prayed at once before he hurt himself or someone else. Every time I say something like that, God gets all over me; I can still see the darkness and evil that is inside of me.

How can God use someone with darkness and evil on the inside of them? Easy, God will use anyone that wants to be used. Look at Mary, she was willing to go through the disgrace of a shotgun wedding and a child that came less than nine months after her wedding. She was willing to be used by God to bless others.

If we read Luke 1:46-55, we see Mary boasting about being humble and how she has been blessed and how everyone is going to say good things about her. This can fit the definition of "praise" (rave, boast, put on a show). We, like Mary, can almost say the same thing. We have been blessed not because of what we have done but in spite of what we have done.

I cannot explain why Christians die in disasters and are not delivered from them, but I know it is somehow their fault and not God's fault.

Psalm 91:2 I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

Possibly they never said, "God is my refuge...." Maybe they said, "If it wasn't for hard luck, I wouldn't have no luck at all. Ha ha." Remember Mark 11:23, you can have what you say. There is divine protection available for those who want it, but like everything in the Kingdom, it must be accepted and received by faith. Our speech will reflect our faith and will influence our faith.

Matthew 6:31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

Satan can put thoughts into our head, but we don't have to receive them into our spirit. It is when we say them that they become a problem to us.

Proverbs 10:11. The mouth of a righteous man is a well of life: but violence covereth the mouth of the wicked.

Jesus says we will be judged by every idle word that comes out of our mouth. Wicked, foolish words will cause violence and ruin.

What is inside of us comes out in our words. A righteous person brings life to all who hear his words. We can bless or curse with our words. They have spiritual power. All the early church had was the Old Testament, the power of the Holy Spirit and the name of Jesus. We have the advantage of having those three things and the New Testament. Where they did not have many copies of the Old Testament, we have a Bible or two in every room. As we spend time in the Word, our words change.

Mark 11: 23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. 24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

25 And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. 26 But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

One reason we lack spiritual power is our unforgiveness toward others. It is not the big things but that guy who pulls in front of us on the freeway. If we had more spiritual power, would we blow out his tires when he pulled in front of us? Jesus spoke to the fig tree and it died. What would happen to the person who pulls in front of us if we curse him? As I have gotten older I have learned to pray for old people driving. As I get closer to old age myself I want to sow into other people's lives the prayers that I want prayed for me when I get old. (You reap what you sow.)

The words we speak bring either life or death. Jesus said, "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks."

Luke 6:35 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

What's inside us comes out in our words and those words can bring evil or good to us.

Proverbs 10:13. Wisdom is found on the lips of him who has understanding, But a rod *is* for the back of him who is devoid of understanding. NKJV

Sin is fun for a little while but there is a price to pay.

I started this Bible study saying I was looking for things that could help us and make our life better. If I make wrong decisions I will end up getting beat up, either figuratively or in reality.

If I have wisdom coming from my lips, not only will I make other people's lives better, but also my own. I may repeat this over and over, God told Joshua (chapter 1), "Don't let the Word depart from your mouth and you will be successful." If we look at Jesus on the cross, even though God had to abandon him, the Word kept coming from his mouth. **Psalm 22:1 My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?** Just like Jesus, we saturate ourselves with the Word so that when we are pushed or squeezed we will respond with the Word. Instead of saying, "Jusy my luck" or "Well, what did old so and so say?" or "What did the news say?" We will ask, "What did Jesus say?" or "What does the Word say?"

We all want to do nice things for people and one of the best things we can do for a person is to say nice, encouraging things to them, words that build up and not tear down.

Proverbs 10:14. Wise men lay up knowledge: but the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.

Memorizing years of "The Simpson's" dialog is not what God is talking about here. Bible knowledge is the best thing to store up, but all learning can be good for us. It is said that if a person spends 10 minutes a day reading things about their profession, in ten years they will be an expert. Over the last thirty years I very seldom tried to "study" the Bible. I would just read and listen to people preach, just putting myself in a position to hear the Word. After about ten or fifteen years I found myself having answers to questions that might be raised. It really slipped up on me. When a question comes up, there are two places the answer can come from: 1) our spirit by the Holy Spirit bringing to mind what the Bible says or maybe a direct revelation of the Holy Spirit to us, or 2) out of our intellect by renewing our mind (this probably is not as good but the answer can be correct). We must be careful when answering out of our intellect. The more Bible truth I know the easier it is for me to find answers to life's questions.

Fools say things that get them into trouble. What is on the inside of them comes out.

James 3:6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

Proverbs 11:9. An hypocrite with his mouth destroyeth his neighbor: but through knowledge shall the just be delivered.

I am going to repeat what I said before. This is the reason we don't have more spiritual power; if we had a lot of power we would destroy the other drivers on the freeway. Every time someone

did something we didn't like we would "destroy our neighbor with our mouth." Jesus said we could speak to a mountain and it would be cast into the sea. Mark 11:23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Think, how many drivers would have been cast into the sea if God had given us more power. Mark 11:25 says we are to forgive anyone who has wronged us. This includes the person that pulled out in front of us. Our first response should be to pray for that person.

We should not say bad things about a person then call it "prayer concerns". If a person needs prayer, we can just pray. We should not get other people involved unless it is something that is good and does not reflect poorly on another person.

Proverbs 12:14. A man shall be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth: and the recompence of a man's hands shall be rendered unto him.

As we meditate (which means mutter) and keep God's word in our mouth, good things will happen as a result of our speech. When we speak out loud, our minds must stop to see what we are saying. When evil thoughts are put in our mind by Satan, our own fantasies, or lusts, we can attack those thoughts the same way Jesus did, "It is written". We can say the appropriate quote from God's word. Then the thought must go, especially any demon activity. If a thought came at me saying how good something would taste and I am not hungry and there is no reason to eat, I can combat that by saying **Philippians 3:19 Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly.....** If it is a demon, that demon is gone. If it is my own lust, then I can ask for the fruit of self discipline, which is a byproduct of being filled with the Holy Spirit.

Proverbs 13:2 A man shall eat good by the fruit of his mouth: but the soul of the transgressors shall eat violence.

Transgressors mean those who act or deal treacherously, faithlessly, or deceitfully, and those who offend. Violence also means wrong, cruelty, and injustice. "To eat", I think, (if I read my Strong's Concordance right) is not actually in the Bible. NIV uses craves; Amplified uses desires. If we want to really get into a word by word study of the Bible, we need a lot of translations and a good Greek or Hebrew concordance.

God told Joshua not to let the Word depart from his mouth. Jesus said in Mark 11:23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Suppose Jesus walked into our house. "Man, that would tickle me to death." If a person said that we would not be surprised. But if we said, "That tickles me to life." People would think we were weird.

Here is what God says a merry heart does: **Proverbs 15:13 makes a cheerful countenance; Proverbs 15:15 has a continual feast; Proverbs 17:22 does good like a medicine.** So, instead of death, being merry makes us look better, have fun and food, and improves our health. How about "Take care." Jesus took our cares so why would we want them back? Jesus said **Mark 4:18 And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, 19**

And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things

entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. We can eat well if we say the right things.

Proverbs 13:3. He who guards his mouth preserves his life, *But* he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction. NKJV

When Isaiah came into God's throne room, the first thing he said was I am a man of unclean lips Isaiah 6:5 Then said I, Woe is me! For I am undone and ruined, because 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! Amplified As I look back, I have done a lot of things I am not proud of. (Ashamed is a better word.) I think the things I regret the most are the things I have said. I have hurt people or made myself look stupid by the words I have spoken. When Satan wants to harass me, he uses the words I have said. David wrote in Psalm 39:1 I said, I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me. While I was looking for this verse, I was amazed how many times the word "mouth" appears in the Psalms and all through the Bible. We should periodically go through the "mouth" verses and other verses that have to do with our speech.

Proverbs 16:23. The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips.

In Proverbs 10:11, I wrote on words and mouth; now I'll address it a little differently.

Luke 6:35 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh. What is on the inside of us will come out in our words. What is on the inside of us is what we meditate on.

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. As we meditate or hear the Word, faith is built on the inside of us. Our speech will reflect what is on the inside of us. Then as our words line up with the Bible, we start saying what God says and all kinds of good things start happening. Mark 11:23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. As we grow in love and faith we start talking to things. Instead of saying, "You lousy car." we say, "You wonderful, beautiful car, you always work well." Now, if I read my Bible correctly, my car must respond to my words.

In printing, sometimes someone will order a job and we buy a full carton of paper but only use a part of the carton, we charge the customer for the full carton (because of price breaks it is cheaper to buy a full carton that just part of the carton). We end up with paper left over that the customer does not want. If it is the type of paper the customer might use in future, we save it for them. If not, we put it on the shelf and use it on another job. Since the paper is already paid for, we can sell it to someone else at a reduced price and still make a lot of money. This is easier said than done. The paper may sit for years and not be used. As I would walk past the paper, I would tell it good-by and speak other words that would help me get it sold. In my 35 years in printing, I bet I've made \$25,000 this way.

Proverbs 16:24. Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.

I once saw on PBS's Nova a program in which a test was done on plants. They had two sets of plants grown under identical circumstances except they talked pleasant, positive words to one set. They may have talked ugly to the other set but I can't remember for sure. One group grew a lot larger than the other. Talking positive to the plants made them bigger and healthier. It works for plants and God says it works for people. Pleasant words not only make people healthier, but also make them feel good.

Proverbs 18:20. A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled.

Mark 11:23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

Here Jesus is saying that we can have whatever we say if we believe. Words are the fruit of what is inside of us. Our words will bring increase and fulfillment. We can take a physical approach, fruit and harvest of a man's mouth will fill his stomach. Amplified goes more spiritual saying a man's moral self is fulfilled as a consequence of words he must accept. My paraphrase would be that words will meet your needs.

Proverbs 18:21. Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

The power of our words can bring life or death. We are going to eat the fruit of our words. Love and appreciate the gift of speech and it will do you much good. Life Lesson – Always say things that are positive and build people up.

Proverbs 22:18. For it is a pleasant thing if thou keep them within thee; they shall withal be fitted in thy lips.

When we get God's word deep inside us, life is pleasant.

Luke 6:45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

What is inside of us will come out in our speech. We will say what God says because we will have his word on our lips ready to be used.

Conclusion

Words matter.