

# THE LAW OF KINDNESS

## EPH 4:31-32, LUKE 6:35

Text: Ephesians 4:31-32, Luke 6:35

### **Ephesians 4:31-32**

<sup>31</sup> Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: <sup>32</sup> And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

### **Luke 6:35**

<sup>35</sup> But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and *to* the evil.

### **Proverbs 31:26**

<sup>26</sup> She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue *is* the law of kindness.

### Introduction:

Do you remember the saying, "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me."? The reality is sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will absolutely break the heart. Broken bones heal with time, but a broken spirit is not easily repaired. They can break the heart of a church, the heart of a brother or sister in Christ, the heart of a husband or wife, the heart of a child.

# 1. THE TONGUE IS A DANGEROUS WEAPON

## James 3:5-10

<sup>5</sup> Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: <sup>8</sup> But the tongue can no man tame; *it is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup> Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. <sup>10</sup> Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.

A. Too often we use our tongue a dangerous or even weapon.

Notice what Paul says to the Corinthian Christians

## 2 Corinthians 12:20

<sup>20</sup> For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and *that* I shall be found unto you such as ye would not: lest *there be* debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults:

B. Gossip-negative talk, put-downs, rumors, accusations-not only hurts the person being talked about; it also hurts the person speaking and the person listening. One negative thought can kill dozens of positive ones. I cannot believe that people are so negative. Negativity breeds nothing but negativity.

## 2. WHY DO PEOPLE USE NEGATIVE AND HARMFUL SPEECH

### A. Unforgiving Spirit

#### **Ephesians 4:31-32**

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### B. Jealousy

#### **Galatians 5:26**

<sup>26</sup> Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

### C. Idleness (Lazy not busy)

#### **1 Timothy 5:13**

<sup>13</sup> And withal they learn *to be* idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not.

## 3. THE RESPONSE TO NEGATIVE SPEECH

The Bible tells us to be kind to one another.

Kindness means to be good, useful, helpful, considerate and gracious in all situations regardless of the circumstances.

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This has to do with our attitude.

- Kindness involves having a forgiving attitude.
- Kindness involves having a selfless attitude.

### **Hebrews 10:24**

<sup>24</sup> And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

- Kindness involves having a serving attitude

### **Galatians 5:13**

<sup>13</sup> For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only *use* not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

- Kindness involves having a protective attitude

### **1 Corinthians 12:25**

<sup>25</sup> That there should be no schism in the body; but *that* the members should have the same care one for another.

- Kindness involves kind speech

### **Colossians 4:6**

<sup>6</sup> Let your speech *be* always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

If someone paid you a \$1.00 for every kind word you said about people and too \$.50 for every unkind word, would you be rich or poor?

**Proverbs 15:1**

<sup>1</sup> A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.

- Kindness involves having a spiritual attitude

**1 Corinthians 3:3**

<sup>3</sup> For ye are yet carnal: for whereas *there is* among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?

**Matthew 15:19**

<sup>19</sup> For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

Close:

Spoken words are like seeds sown, the fruit of which we reap sooner or later. Hence it is important that we choose the right word to speak. The will of God is for us to have abundant life, yet many are not having abundant life today because of the words they speak. Through the right use of the tongue, we can command blessings upon our lives, our families and other people. Through the right use of our tongue, we can encourage and build others up. However, when we abuse our tongue, we can rob people the blessings of God. We can discourage others and destroy lives. Through the abuse of the tongue, we can bring curses upon

ourselves. Do not allow Satan to use your tongue. Do not let your tongue become a stumbling block to others.