

## WEEK 3- WISDOM IN WORDS

*Proverbs 18:21, 12:18, 16:28, 12: 13-14, 12:17, 15:4, 15:1, 25:15, 10:32, 25:11, 24:26, 10:18, 16:23*

1. OUR WORDS HAVE INCREDIBLE POWER
2. FIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF LIFE-GIVING SPEECH
  - Truthful and Honest
  - Kind and Gentle
  - Wise and Apt
  - Forthright and Courageous
  - Economic and Thoughtful

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What part of this past Sunday's teaching stood out most to you? Why?
2. The first main idea this week was "Our Words Have Incredible Power" (Prov. 18:21, 12:18, 12:13). How were words used (or not used) in the home you grew up in and in your friend groups? How has that affected the way you use your words?
3. Before hearing Sunday's teaching, how much thought did you give to the way you speak? After hearing the message, is there anything that you'd like to change about how you use your words?
4. Take some time to consider the five characteristics of life-giving speech (listed above). Of these five characteristics, which one is most often lacking from your speech? Which one is most often present in your speech?
5. In order to speak in a way that is "wise and apt" we have to use the right words (Prov. 10:32) at the right time (Prov. 25:11) in the right way (Prov. 24:26). In other words, the communicator has a responsibility to communicate their ideas in a way that is hearable to those that are on the receiving end. What do you think the world would look like if everyone applied this way of thinking to all their interactions, including their social media accounts? What would change in your own life if you applied this way of thinking to all your communication?
6. When we look at Prov. 16:23 and at what Jesus says in Matt. 12:33-34 it's clear that our speech is nothing more than the overflow of what's already inside our heart. Therefore, the only thing that can truly change your words is a change in your heart. If someone asked you how they can change their heart, what would you say?
7. Pastor Ryan cross-referenced James 3 when talking about the power that our own words have on us. Read James 3 as a group and make note of all the different metaphors that are used for the tongue. How do these metaphors in James 3 help you better understand the power of your words?