

When speaking of “spiritual power,” keep in mind that the spiritual and physical worlds overlap and are intertwined. We ignore the spiritual world and the power of our words at our peril.

TWO-FOLD POWER OF WORDS:

1. Regular relationship use of words

2. Spiritual gifts with our tongues

3. Misused power

4. Holy Disruption or Unholy Destruction

5. Do you speak death or life? You are a prophetic person.

Psalm 141:1

1 O LORD, I call upon You; hasten to me!

Give ear to my voice when I call to You!

2 May my prayer be counted as incense before You;

The lifting up of my hands as the evening offering.

3 Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth;

Keep watch over the door of my lips.

WORDS REVEAL OUR HEARTS.

Our hearts are continually needing to be tended to. Have you done a heart check lately? What is consuming you and driving you? Why?

Order your thoughts and words by forming your heart around Jesus.

May 13, 2018



PILGRIM
CHURCH

CBC

communication basics *for* christians

Spiritual Power of Words

Three Sundays of Communication Basics for Christians -Skills and Knowledge.

No. 1 Spiritual Power of Words/Foundations about words

No. 2 Getting a Different Result

No. 3 Life, Blessing and Creative Speaking

KEY VERSES

+ **Proverbs 18:21** The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

+ **James 1:26** Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.

+ **Luke 6:45** The good person out of the good treasury of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasury produces evil, for his mouth speaks from what fills his heart.

BIG IDEA: YOUR WORDS SHAPE OUR WORLD

1. God creates the world and humanity by his word.

2. As we are created in His image and likeness, he also gives us semi-autonomous power with our words. Our words have spiritual power that affect things in the world we can see.

The smaller groups in our church community are inside our homes where we go deeper, build friendships, and walk out the Christian life with each other.

HOME CHURCH/SMALL GROUP/CLASS GUIDE

1. "Breaking the Ice" question: (group facilitator)
2. Check-ins: What's been happening in your week(s) since last meeting? Introduce yourself if new/new people in group, check in with each other
3. Care: Needs in the group; name needs and have sentence prayers (short sentences/open ended, not long-winded) at end of the gathering time
4. Compassion: What compassion work is the group planning? Are you inviting your neighbors to join?
5. Group Announcements (church-wide and group-only)
6. Dig in: Any reflections, discernments, disagreements from last week's teaching (or since you last met)? Look at the Bible passage(s) again and read some of them out loud in the group (and other verses that may have been mentioned). What jumps out at you? Discuss some of the questions as a group.
7. End and Homework: Final questions, prayer huddles for personal requests. Consider breaking into small groups (huddles) of 2-4, by gender, if large enough.

PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK:



QUESTIONS FOR HOME GROUP: MAY 13, 2018

1. Politicians and celebrities are very free with their word these days. Can you think of a phrase that hit the news?
2. Think of a time you have been hurt or offended by what someone said to you. If you can, share with the group what and why?
3. Reread some of the passages: Psalm 141:1-3; Eph 4:15; Matthew 16:13-20, 18:15-20; Jeremiah 1:9-10; James 3:1-12, Luke 6:45; James 1:26; Proverbs 18:21. What messages are you hearing in these Bible verses?
4. What are ways you have seen your words build or tear down someone?
5. When Paul says "tell the truth in love" how would you apply that in a tough situation?
6. What do you see as the difference between holy denunciation and unholy destruction with our words in the face of sin? Explore the idea of conviction vs. condemnation about our own struggles?
7. Jesus saved his harshest language for believers in God who blocked access for new people to encounter life. What does this tell us about our tone depending on the issues at hand?

TAKE OUT: Try the positive speaking challenge. Only speak positive things to someone in your life for a month, if something "cold" needs to be said, sandwich it between two real encouragements.