

Listen to What You Say to Others

By: Dan Jenkins

He had no idea how he spoke to his family, and the attitude shown by his words was impacting his wife and kids. He would never curse or use profanity, but the tone in what he said really hurt. His wife wondered how to deal with this. So, she secretly recorded what he was saying, and then let him hear the impact his words were having. When he listened to the recording, he was shocked. He had no idea how what he said and the way he said it sounded to others and the impact it was having on his family.

Think about how you treat your family and whether or not what you say and the tone you use would ever be used in a public way when talking to people you hardly know.

Have you thought of what the Bible says about these matters? Let me urge you to read the following verses carefully, and let them impact what you say to others, especially those closest to you.

“Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification that it may impart grace to the hearers” (**Eph. 4:29**).

“But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints, neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather the giving of thanks” (**Eph. 5:3-4**).

“Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor (a rarely used English word, the Greeks indicates “loud quarreling”—dj), and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you” (**Eph. 4:31-32**).

“For every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words, you will be condemned” (**Matt. 12:36-37**).

“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” (**Jas. 3:6**).

“For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps...who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously” (**1 Pet. 2:21-23**).

That wife who recorded her husband's words listened to that recording and discovered her tone and her words were part of the problem. Tragically, we feel justified about our own actions and are worse to our family than to total strangers. Think about this.

Give Me the Bible, Not “Sola Scriptura” (Part 5 of 6)

By: Selected

It is the responsibility of every responsible Bible student to “[handle] aright the word of truth” (**2 Tim. 2:15, ASV**). Handling it “aright” clearly warns against handling it “a-wrong.” Therefore, we must recognize that we have no authority to “go beyond” (ESV) or even “think beyond what is written” (**1 Cor. 4:6**). We have no authority to “speak” beyond what is written, for we must speak only “the oracles of God” (**1 Pet. 4:11**). We have no authority to create “divisions” by speaking, thinking or going beyond what is written (**1 Cor. 1:10**). That is our clear, God-given responsibility, as we handle “aright” His Word.

While such should never even cross the mind of finite man when it comes to the infinite God, the Bible repeatedly commands, “You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it” (**Deut. 4:2**). “You shall not add to it nor take away from it” (**Deut. 12:32**). “Do not add to His words” (**Prov. 30:6**). “If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book” (**Rev. 22:18-19**).

There is only one gospel, one truth, one faith, one final revelation from God, but some “want to pervert the gospel of Christ” (**Gal. 1:6-7**), so we are warned about “anyone” who would preach “any other gospel” (1:8-9) or “bring” to us something other than “the doctrine of Christ” (**2 John 9-11**). It is dangerously “vain” for individuals to go around “teaching as doctrines the commandments of men” (**Matt. 15:9**). We must “speak THE truth” (**Eph. 4:15**) and “preach THE word” (**2 Tim. 4:2**), recognizing the singular, objective, final revelation that we hold within our hands.

The Bible is full of examples of individuals

who chose to go beyond God’s Word, thus going beyond God’s authority for them. Nadab and Abihu, priests in the Old Testament, offered “unauthorized fire before the Lord,” and as a result, “fire came out from before the Lord and consumed them” (**Lev. 10:1-2, ESV**). Moses chose to “strike the rock,” rather than “speak to the rock,” as instructed by God, and as a result, he was not permitted to enter “into the land” of promise (**Num. 20:7-12**). Uzzah was improperly transporting the ark of the covenant, and he “put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it,” when God had instructed to “not touch any holy thing” (**Num. 4:15**), and as a result, “he died there by the ark of God” (**2 Sam. 6:3-7**).

We must respect and obey God’s Word, lest we “be punished with everlasting destruction” (**2 Thess. 1:8-9**).



Upcoming Events

TONIGHT: Youth devo after evening worship at the McCoy home. Boys bring drinks, girls bring desserts.

Sunday, June 1: At our monthly potluck we will be honoring our two high school graduates: Corrine Flonnory and Katie Fricks. There will be a cake and basket for cards. Please bring a covered dish.

Area events:

Area events/details are posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. Please check them out.

Prayer List

Prayer Requests:

Jerri Rosales will be put at the top of the kidney transplant list as soon as insurance is approved which should take a week or two. Jerri has finally got her clearance after testing for almost a year and a half. Please continue to pray that everything goes well for her.

Allen Clifton who has been undergoing radiation treatment 5 days a week.

Nancy Dorries who was in the hospital this past week.

Brenda Voyt, friend of Rick Bass, who is on hospice care.

Members

Jeff Cannady, Jerry FitzSimmons, James Hicks, and Veronica Serenil.

Service Roster

Week of May 11, 2025

Sunday Morning

Scripture Reading.....Caleb Lehtinen
Song Leader.....Jeff Cannady

Opening Prayer.....Ken Dorries
Closing Prayer.....Bill York

Lord's Supper & Offering

Bread.....Ron White
Cup.....Lupe Escojido
Offering.....Bryant Siegel
Assist.....Steve Randle
Assist.....Willie Fossati
Assist.....James Cammock

Sunday Evening

Song Leader.....Kevin Sheeran

Opening Prayer.....James Cammock
Closing Prayer.....Bryce Dolan

Lord's Supper & Offering.....Lupe Escojido/
Bryant Siegel

Wednesday Evening

Adult Class.....Cody McCoy
Song Leader.....Luke FitzSimmons
Devotional.....Mark FitzSimmons

Other

Prepare Communion.....Ferman Rosales

Congregational News This Week

Birthdays

Tre Cannady.....May 11

Anniversaries

Cody & Katy McCoy.....May 19

Please sign up to open/close the building, prepare communion, and host youth devos for 2025. The sign up sheets are on the bulletin board in the hallway.

If you have any prayer requests, upcoming events to be announced, or updates/corrections please contact our secretary, Nina Siegel, at (361) 573-0030 or email office.midtownchurch@gmail.com

Our Elders

Mark FitzSimmons
Ron White

Our Deacons

James Cammock—Evangelism
Lupe Escojido— Benevolence
Doug Jobes—Safety, Men's Encouragement &
Winter Youth Retreat
Kevin Sheeran—Worship Organization and
Communication
Bryant Siegel—Education and Finance

Our Minister

Cody McCoy

Weekly Reading

Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are
you disquieted within me? Hope in God; For I
shall yet praise Him, the help of my countenance
and my God.
Psalm 42:11 NKJV

Service Times

Sunday Morning Bible Class.....9:00 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship.....5:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Class.....7:00 P.M.

Attendance Records

Week of May 4, 2025

A.M. Bible Class.....67
A.M. Worship.....109
P.M. Worship.....58
Wednesday Worship.....56

*Financial information is located on the bulletin
board in the hallway.*

Supported Works

John & Carla Moore *Bible Land Passages*

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