

S.A.F.E. Homes



Strengthening Apostolic Families Everywhere



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

You’ve Got the Power

Words are a powerful thing. Most of us can quote the old saying, “Sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me,” but unfortunately it simply isn’t true. The wise King Solomon advised us in Proverbs that the power of the tongue can bring life or death. That is powerful!

When a tiny baby utters its first syllables of “momma” or “dada”, a parent feels an indescribable rush of joy. One of the first words a young child is taught to say is “thank you.” If youth express respect by answering an adult with a “yes, ma’am or no sir” it suggests a higher level of courtesy and good manners. Much can be determined about a person by the sort of language he or she uses.

On the Day of Pentecost, after 120 were filled with the Holy Ghost, the Bible says of the Apostle Peter, **“And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation” (Acts 2: 40)**. We may not know all the words that Peter spoke that day, but amazingly, after this about three thousand people were baptized in Jesus’ name and added to the church! Talk about some powerful words!


Today we still need to be reminded to save ourselves from an untoward (troublesome) generation. Instead of adapting to the trend of the world around us to insult, belittle, and intimidate others, using our words to bring pain and death, the Apostle Paul reminds us, “Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers” (Ephesians 4: 29).

Just think, you have the ability to build people up or tear them down, to minister grace or disgrace by the very words you speak. You might even hold the key to a great revival. Now that’s power!

Family Prayer: *Lord, I want the words of my mouth to be pleasing to You. Help me glorify You and encourage others by the things I say. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.*

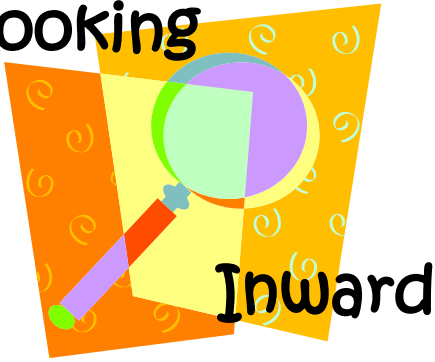


Includes
Family
Activities



Want more?
Scroll down for
Bonus Pages

Looking



Inward

Make an acronym of the name of someone in your family using positive descriptive words. If you have an odd number of people in your family, then someone may do more than one. Once complete, have the family member it belongs to decorate and display in their room. This is sure to be a special and memorable gift!

Let's talk

Have each person in your family tell about one positive and one negative thing that has been said to them in the past and how it affected them. Discuss the impact of our words when speaking to others.

Colossians 4:6 says, "Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man." This week, make sure the words you speak are enhancing, lifting up and bringing out the good in others.

Looking



Outward

Additional Challenges

Today's devotion reminds us to be careful of the words we use. Imagine having the power to give life or death! List some words or phrases that have the power to give life to others. A couple of examples are given for you.

- You are a great friend
- I like you
- I'm sorry I hurt you
- _____
- _____
- _____

What are some words that tear others down?

- I hate you
- She's so ugly
- You're stupid
- _____
- _____
- _____

Let's check out a few other verses on this subject:

Proverbs 25:11 "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." In your words, explain what this verse means. _____

Psalms 19:14 "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer." Does this mean that the words that a person *thinks* are important, too?

Explain: _____

Ephesians 4:29 "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers." Put this verse in your own words:

Let your words bring life to others!

Puzzle Page

Unscramble each of the clue words.

Copy the letters in the numbered cells to other cells with the same number to reveal the message.

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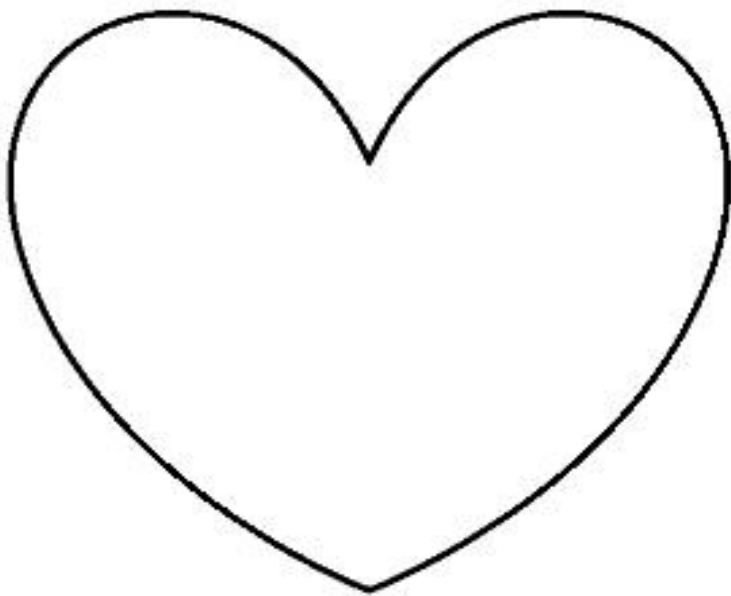
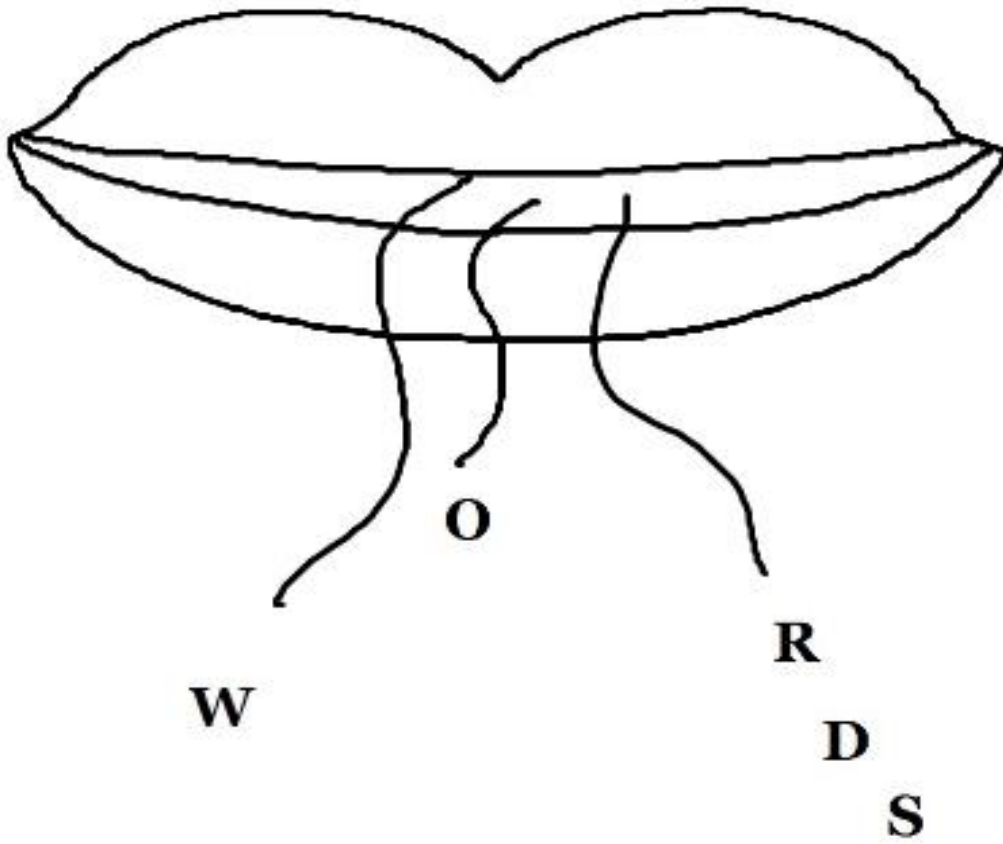
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Psalms 19:14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.