

LOVING WITH YOUR WORDS

40 Days of Love, Part 3

All of us often make mistakes. But if a person never makes a mistake in what he says, he is perfect. James 3:2a (TEV)

- My mouth **directs** where I go.
- My mouth can **destroy** what I have.
- My mouth **displays** who I really am.

“Words flow out of what fills the heart.” Matthew 12:34 (NJB)

“Your souls aren’t harmed by what you eat, but by what you think and say!” Mark 7:15 (TLB)

1. LOVE PEOPLE WITH **HONEST WORDS**

...speaking the truth in love... Ephesians 4:15a (NIV)

An open rebuke is better than hidden love! Proverbs 27:5 (NLT)

*Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.
1 Corinthians 13:6 (NIV)*

2. LOVE PEOPLE WITH **CAREFUL WORDS**

*In your **anger** do not sin. Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.*

Ephesians 4:26-27 (NIV)

*A **gossip** separates close friends. Proverbs 16:28b (NIV)*

*Watch your words and **hold your tongue**; you’ll save yourself a lot of grief. Proverbs 21:23 (Msg)*

3. LOVE PEOPLE WITH **BUILDING WORDS**

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs... Ephesians 4:29 (NIV)

THIS WEEK I WILL CHOOSE:

- Kind words: Transform worry to joy
Worry can rob you of happiness, but kind words will cheer you up. Proverbs 12:25 (TEV)
- Gentle words: Break through anger
A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. Proverbs 15:1 (NIV)
- Pleasant words: Encourage learning
Pleasant words promote instruction. Proverbs 16:21b (NIV)
- Honest words: Make us feel loved
An honest answer is like a kiss on the lips. Proverbs 24:26
- Wise words: Heal broken hearts
Thoughtless words can wound as deeply as any sword, but wisely spoken words can heal. Proverbs 12:18 (TEV)