**Improve THIS and Improve Your Life**

**Improve Your WORDS and Improve Your Life**

Turn in your Bibles to Genesis 1, James 3 and Ephesians 4

**Recommend the Book – “Change Your Words Change Your Life”**

**Give away a five copies in each service at the beginning of the service.**

**(I will ask Bible Trivia questions and give the copies to those who answer it. 2 on the balconies and 3 on the main floor in each section.)**

**1. What is the first thing God created?**

 **The answer is words and the words created everything else.**

**Genesis 1:1-3**

**In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.**

**John 1:1-4**

**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.**

A. In English the word is “the” as if it is a participle for the words heaven and

 earth.

B. But in the Hebrew Bible look how it reads, “Aleph Tav” (A-Z)

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| --- | --- |
|   בְּרֵאשִׁית, בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים, **אֵת** הַשָּׁמַיִם, וְאֵת הָאָרֶץ. | **1** In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. |

In the beginning God created the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet and used them to form words. Then God said, “Let there be…” The first thing God created was words, then He formed the world with His words.

C. You and I are creating our world with our words. We have to change our

 words first, if we want to change our life.

D. Words are not just for communication, they are for creating things. All communication creates a better or worse environment. We are not just socializing, we are creating.

 1. You create a marriage with words.

 2. You create a business with words.

 3. You create a nation or a culture with words.

 4. All vision casting means is you are creating the preferred future with words.

 5. You turn a child into an adult with words.

 6. Words ultimately CREATE THINGS.

**2. Words are Seeds**

A. Words are Seeds

 They never don’t end when they are spoken, but they begin

 to produce a “good” or “bad” harvest of life or death. They produce fruit.

 **Proverbs 18:19-21 A brother offended is harder to win than a strong city,**

 **And contentions are like the bars of a castle. A man's stomach shall be**

 **satisfied from the fruit of his mouth; From the produce of his lips he**

 **shall be filled. Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those**

 **who love it will eat its fruit.**

 1. Every seed that is planted will either live or die.

 Every word that is spoken will either create life or death.

B. We should Pray over the Words we Use

 **Psalms 19:14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart**

 **Be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.**

C. Choosing Your Words Carefully

**Words to stop using:** hate, pain, pity, swear words, stupid, dumb, death, hell,

never and nothing.

**Words to start using:** love, please, thank you, great, wonderful, fantastic, awesome, good, ma’am and sir, good job, excited, anticipating, hope and praise.

**Things to stop doing:** complaining, gossiping, repeating secrets, screaming, degrading, criticizing, judging and making ugly faces, correcting your family and friends in front of other people and interrupting people while they are talking.

**Things to start doing:** praying, smiling, complimenting, smiling, encouraging, smiling, hugging, smiling, helping, smiling, joking, smiling, cheering, smiling, working, smiling, praising, smiling, laughing, smiling, loving, smiling and smiling.

**3. Hard Hearts and Tender Hearts create Hard Words and Tender Words**

**People who speak harsh to others were not born that way, they have issues in their heart that have never been dealt with.**

**There are many kind-hearted world leaders who were not dictators or controllers. Being tough is not the same as being loud and controlling.**

**A. The Tongue Cannot be Tamed.**

 **You may never “say” what you think but you will always “act” what you**

 **think.**

**James 3:1-12**

**1 My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. 2 For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body. 3 Indeed, we put bits in horses ’ mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body. 4 Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires. 5 Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! 6 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. 7 For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. 8 But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.**

**9 With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. 10 Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so. 11 Does a spring send forth fresh water and bitter from the same opening? 12 Can a fig tree, my brethren, bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Thus no spring yields both salt water and fresh.**

**B. Since we cannot tame our tongue, we have to change our heart to purify our words. We cannot change our words to change our heart, we must change our heart in order to change our words.**

**Matthew 12:33-37**

**33 “ Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by its fruit. 34 Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. 35 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. 36 But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. 37 For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.**

**C. Things that Grieve the Holy Spirit**

When the Holy Spirit is grieved we will feel a distance between us and God. It doesn’t mean God has left us, but has distanced Himself from us so that we will seek and find Him and correct the issue that grieves Him.

**Ephesians 4:25-32**

**Do Not Grieve the Spirit**

**25 Therefore, putting away lying, “Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,” for we are members of one another.**

**26 “Be angry, and do not sin”: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, 27 nor give place to the devil.**

**28 Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.**

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

**30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.**

**A. 4 things that grieve the Holy Spirit**

1. Lying

2. Unresolved anger

3. People who do not give to kingdom work.

 (Lack of generosity and stewardship)

4. Speaking corrupt words and the lack of encouragement and edification

**B. The progression of unresolved offenses in your life**

**31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.**

a. bitterness – something happened that left a bitter taste in your mouth

b. wrath – anger that is seething internally but is not shown externally

c. anger – it’s now an emotion that is part of your personality

d. clamor- talking about it

e. evil speaking – the talking turns into corrupt communication and slander

f. malice – you act on it and someone gets hurt.

**C. The progression of resolved offenses in your life**

**4:32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you. 5:1 Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet- smelling aroma.**

a. kind – you choose kindness in spite of how you feel

b. tenderhearted – you pray for them and don’t allow yourself to get

 hard-hearted.

c. forgive – you trust God for justice and release yourself from being the judge

d. grace – you walk in grace, remembering that Christ forgave you.

e. walk in love – your choice to be kind to someone is offered as a sacrifice to

 God, and act of praise. Your kindness is an offering to the Lord.