

My BIG Mouth!

3 of 4 | Use Your Words

SLIDE 1 Introduction

Remember when you were a kid and your parents told you to, "Use your words." They meant instead of acting out in anger or frustration you needed to learn to express verbally what was going on inside you.

This series is kind of like that. We need to use our words to express the internal reality of what Christ has done for us. Not using our words to convey what is around us, but what is within us. Not speaking what we have, but what we want.

SLIDE 2 2nd Corinthians 4:18 (NIV) *"So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."*

Therapy is based on this, education is based on this—the world is based on using words to convey internal images, feelings, and truths. We use words to place what is in us into those around us. This is building—for yourself, for others, and ultimately for the kingdom. How we use our words and what we use them for is the whole basis of serving God's kingdom on earth.

SLIDE 3 My Mouth, My Life

Some think the power of the tongue is to control others, to manipulate others, and to get what they want out of others. They use their tongues as a weapon against others.

The Bible refers to a tongue that speaks guile [being crafty], a tongue that is as sharp as a knife, and a tongue that is poisonous.

SLIDE 4 Romans 3:13 (NIV) *"Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit." "The poison of vipers is on their lips."*

Paul pulls three Old Testament quotes to express this use of the tongue. All of this comes from a person who is too focused on themselves. We need to use the power God gave us (or should I say "redeemed for us") to advance the kingdom of God in the earth.

SLIDE 5 We Need Kingdom Vision

Before we go wading through the world with a wagging tongue, let us consider why we are using it and who we are using it for. Is it for our benefit? Maybe even our entertainment? Yes, conversations today seem to just fill in the void with something entertaining to listen to. These words serve no purpose other than to distract us from more important issues in our lives. This is like a preacher who tells you, *"Don't Worry, Be Happy,"* without giving you any tools to promote positive change in your life.

This boastfulness makes you think the idea of salvation is to eliminate all your problems and enjoy a life free from any conflict. These people are just lulling you to sleep. They are not speaking words of equipping, they are singing lullabies to you.

SLIDE 6a Psalm 12:3, 4 (NIV) *"³ May the Lord silence all flattering lips and every boastful tongue— ⁴ those who say, "By our tongues we will prevail; **our own lips will defend us—who is lord over us?"**"*

The King James reveals a deeper truth about their attitude:

SLIDE 6b (KJV) *"³ The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things: ⁴ Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; **our lips are our own: who is lord over us?"***

Just because you have control over your own mouth, does not mean you get to decide everything you want. This is not "name it and claim it," nor is it "blab it and grab it" theology. Our mouths are to be empowered for kingdom work, building the image of God in the hearts of those we speak to.

SLIDE 7 Everything is Built on Words

If we understood that our words have creative force in our lives and in the lives of others, then we would spend more time planning what we say. We would make our words count. If we did, then our words would be sought after. If you have proven your words to be constructive (prophetic), others will seek you out and ask you honest, sincere questions about life.

Yes, there are those who reject sound council because they are proud in their own imaginations, but there are many who need someone to speak empowering words

into their lives. That's why Jesus told us to shake the dust off our feet and move on. There are people waiting for words of life to build their lives upon.

SLIDE 8 Matthew 10:14 (NIV) *"If anyone will not welcome you **or listen to your words**, leave that home or town and shake the dust off your feet."*

We are building a kingdom and we are using words to do it. We are taking the image that is in our hearts and placing it in the hearts of those around us through words.

We build with our words, but like I spoke of earlier in this series, we can also tear down with our words. We can tear down our own lives, but we can also tear down the lives of others.

SLIDE 9 A Door to Deeper Truth

Therein lies a deeper truth I can't get into now, but even if your words are working in your life, there are words of others that are standing against you. You must come against, reject, and disprove every word others speak against you. Even the devil is the *"accuser of the brethren."* (Revelation 12:10)

Even the Lord deals with this. He speaks blessing over your life, but then deals with you speaking against what he has spoken, as it says in Malachi:

SLIDE 10 Malachi 3:13 - 15 (KJV) *"¹³ Your words have been stout [strong, harsh, arrogant] against me, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, What have we spoken so much against thee? ¹⁴ Ye have said, It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of hosts? ¹⁵ And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered."*

SLIDE 11 Running Your Mouth

This reveals another extreme. People often talk for no purpose. They just run their mouths. And all the while, you are trying to understand what they are saying and why they are saying it.

Have you ever stopped someone and asked, "What are you trying to say?" Only then do you realize they have no idea what they are trying to say. They are just talking. In

the spirit world we are filling the air with a cloud of confusion where nothing of value can be expressed or even heard.

In this world you have to listen above the constant onslaught of noise to hear anything of value, anything creative, or even anything of God. Mouths of every sort are constantly running, devaluing everything that is spoken until no creative force can prevail or even be heard.

Ecclesiastes tells us:

SLIDE 12 Ecclesiastes 5:2 (NIV) *“Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven and you are on earth, **so let your words be few.**”*

A few words with power outweigh many words devoid of purpose. Often a few words of power can break through the din of noise and silence a room full of words.

SLIDE 13 Multiplying Words Lessens Meaning

Too many words is like a fire that burns up everything you said. People lose grasp on your thoughts (if you had any) and just start thinking inside their own heads. They are not listening to you anymore.

SLIDE 14 Proverbs 10:19 (NKJV) *“In the multitude of words sin is not lacking [unavoidable, not absent], **But he who restrains his lips is wise.**”*

Some people can wear you out with words and provide nothing for you to build upon. Nothing has been conveyed, they just want to talk.

As believers our words must have meaning. They must have power. To do this they must be based on truth and spoken from a fully persuaded heart.

SLIDE 15 Altar Time

We have a hope and a purpose that the world cannot see without us revealing it to them through our words. Our words ought to always reflect the joy and peace we have in believing.

Next Sunday we will conclude our series with talking about muddying the waters of

life and how we can start a cleansing flow out of our hearts. This will purifying our words. There WILL be seasons of refreshing!