

Defective Speech?

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1. Words can give or take life!

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit. Prov 18:21 (NASB95)

The symptoms for DSD is this...

- Saying things that bring death (anything that does not bring God glory)
- Saying things you wish you could take back
- Cursing
- Grumbling
- Whining

With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God; ¹⁰ from the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way.

James 3:9-10 (NASB95)

I think when James wrote these centuries ago he must have been thinking of me, I mean I don't swear anymore but sometime the things I say may be worse. How strange that the tongue is able to speak praises to our Lord and Father every Sunday and the moment we leave church curses against other people. We should have the same attitude of respect for fellow human beings as we have for God, because they are created in his image. Yet we have this horrible, double-sided tongue, so that blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. *Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way.*

James 3:2 (NLT)

James did not point a finger at the offenders without including himself: We all stumble in many ways. Nothing seems to trip a believer more than a dangling tongue. If a believer is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect, fulfilled, mature, complete person. He is able to "bridle" his whole body. Spiritual maturity requires a tamed tongue. ¹ *Then Job answered, ² "I have heard many such things; Sorry comforters are you all. ³ "Is there no limit to windy words? Or what plagues you that you answer? ⁴ "I too could speak like you, If I were in your place. I could compose words against you And shake my head at you. ⁵ "I could strengthen you with my mouth, And the solace of my lips could lessen your pain.*

Job 16:1-5 (NASB95)

What disappointing consolers these so-called friends turned out to be! They told Job nothing new, and they were miserable comforters (lit., "comforters of trouble,". They compounded rather than eased his trouble. Furthermore they babbled with long-winded speeches and arguments, unlike good counselors who console and listen.

2. We need to stop **complaining!**

3. We need to start edifying!

*"Pleasant words are a honeycomb,
Sweet to the soul and
healing to the bones."
Ezra 10:24*

Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear. Eph 4:29 (NASB95)

Edify.

Educate

*Let the **words** of my mouth and the meditation of my **heart** Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my rock and my Redeemer.* Psalms 19:14 (NASB95)

But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment. ³⁷ "For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

Matt 12:36-37 (NASB95)

One of the best ways we can make sure our speech is truthful and fruitful is to use the word of the bible. *"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, And do not return there without watering the earth And making it bear and sprout, And furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater; ¹¹ So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.*

Isaiah 55:10-11 (NASB95)

4. What kind of fruit are your words bearing? What kind would you like it to bear?

Will it bring life or death....tell the story of Kayla using my ingredients...

No doubt back then my words brought death. *Gentle words are a tree of life; a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.*

Prov 15:4 (NLT)

Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.

Col 4:6 (NASB95)

The spoken word would be the communication method; therefore, the believers should be wise in how they spoke. Speech that is **gracious** is kind and courteous.

5. How can I change what I say?

But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man.

Matt 15:18 (NASB95)

Change what you put into your heart. Now if you continue to put worldly things into your heart what do you think will come out? But if you continue daily to put little amounts of Gods words into your heart what do you think will flow from your mouth?

The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.

Luke 6:45 (NASB95)

Can you begin to practice using your words, what you say to **build up and not tear down**, to **encourage and not to discourage**, to **heal and not to wound**, to **love and not to hate**.

Did you know that your words could lead someone to everlasting life?

