

σαπρός = sapos

corrupting = **UNWHOLESOME** or **ROTTEN**

Jesus' words in Luke 6:45

"For out of the abundance of our HEARTS our MOUTHS speak."

What is in my heart that is causing my speech to be good or bad?

Takeaway

Speak words that are TRUE and that BUILD UP the family of God



NEXT WEEK:
Putting on Self-Giving Love
Ephesians 5:1-4



Do the words we say really matter THAT much? Shouldn't I be free to speak how I want? We all ask questions like this, but God gives us clear instruction in Ephesians 4:25 and 29 about how to use our words as we live in community with one another.

Why our words matter

We have put off the **OLD SELF** and put on the **NEW SELF**.

Asking the right question

1. If we're asking, "What can I get away with and still be a Christian?" we're asking **THE WRONG QUESTION!**
2. Instead we should ask, "How can I use my words to **BUILD UP** people around me and **GLORIFY GOD?**"

Words matter because

1. We are choosing between **TRUTH** and **LIES**.

*"Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, **for we are members one of another.**"*

2. We are choosing between **BUILDING UP** and **TEARING DOWN**.

*"Let no **corrupting talk** come out of your mouths, but only such as is **good for building up**, as fits the occasion, that it may **give grace** to those who hear."*



The Words We Speak
Ephesians 4:25 & 29
Sunday, February 16, 2020

Growth Groups are the glue which holds our church together, the way we find and follow Jesus together. If you are not involved in a Growth Group, now is the time to jump in at gracecentralcoast.org.

This year, our aim is to see our Growth Groups embody our 3-fold identity as followers of Jesus: Family, Servant, and Missionary. To that end, we're framing our Growth Group Interaction Guide to help groups move in that direction.

Connecting Together

In Ephesians we are talking about walking (living) with and in Christ. So how has your relationship with Christ impacted this week of your life? (Pair off in twos to discuss and then share what you learned from the other person in your pair.)

Digging into God's Word & the Message Together

- 1. Read Ephesians 4:20-32 together again as group. How did you come under God's Word in the text and message this week? How did God speak to you? What did you learn or what were you reminded of in this study?
2. Why do you think the words we speak are so important?
3. Let's get personal. Have you ever lied to someone only to have them find out the truth? What happened?

- 4. A lot of times we think avoiding external sources of corrupting talk will help us to not speak that way. Read Luke 6:43-45. What is Jesus saying here about our words and how does this relate to Ephesians 4:25 & 29?
5. Your Growth Group as a Family: Words matter because we live life together. How might your group move towards words that, "speak the truth" (v. 25) and are "good for building up" (v. 29)?
6. Your Growth Group as a Servant/Missionary: Think about how your words not only reflect who you are, but who your God is and what your church family is like. How might your words need to change in the office, neighborhood, school parking lot, etc...? What message are you preaching to the world when you speak?

Praying Together

- Share needs and pray for one another.
• With this text in hand and in mind, pray in response to this text and the Spirit's conviction.
• Pray over a list of names in your circles of influence that God is calling you to pray for, love, and serve.

Your Group Prayer List

Horizontal lines for writing a group prayer list.