

What the world needs to hear: A Study of Colossians Chapter 3 (and 4)

Colossians 4:2-6

March 17, 2024

There is a great emphasis in these verses relative to how we speak to a watching world that is looking, and listening, and evaluating Christianity on the basis of what they hear.

Christianity should have a profound effect on the mouth. A person's speech should be greatly altered by the fact that they have been saved, that they have been redeemed.

"Do not use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them." Ephesians 4:29, NLT

"The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell." James 3:6

First Peter 3:9: *"Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing..."*

The speech of prayer:

- Prayer is the most important expression of the new life.
- Prayer is the simple conversation of the beloved child with the caring Father.

The speech of proclamation:

- Pray for God to open doors of opportunity to speak the Word to another.

The speech of Behavior:

- Very often, the most important thing is not what you say. It is about behaviors, and actions, and reactions that give credibility to what we say.

The speech of consistency:

- The mouth of a Christian should speak with consistent truth and grace.
- Make gracious speech a habit, whether you are being persecuted, whether you are in a stressful situation, whether a difficulty, or whether you have been wronged.
- Whether to your wife, or to your children, or to your neighbor, or to a friend, or to a stranger. Let your speech be gracious.

The ungodly person claims in Psalm 12:4: "Our lips are our own; who is Lord over us? Who can rule me? I can say anything I want."

But the Christian says this, Psalm 141:3: "Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and keep the door of my lips."

Notes:
