

What Now?

Some suggestions and resources:

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. (James 5:16)

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouth, but only what is helpful for building other up that it may benefit those who listen. (Ephesians 4:29)

Read James 3:1-12

A Chapter A Day

Throughout the month read the chapter in Proverbs that corresponds with the day of the month: February 1 / Proverbs 1; February 2 / Proverbs 2; etc.

<http://parkerhill.wordpress.com> – weekly follow-up questions for you and your small group

Modern Questions Ancient Wisdom

January 30-31, 2010

Paul McGuinness

Why Should I Watch My Words?

Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing. (Proverbs 12:18)

My Words Are Powerful!

Like a club or a sword or a sharp arrow is the man who gives false testimony against his neighbor. (Proverbs 25:18)

A scoundrel plots evil, and his speech is like a scorching fire. (Proverbs 16:27)

Install a

Don't Talk So Much

When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise. (Proverbs 10:19)

A man of knowledge uses words with restraint, and a man of understanding is even-tempered. Even a fool is thought wise if he keeps silent and discerning if he holds his tongue. (Proverbs 17:27-28)

Before You Talk

A fool finds no pleasure in understanding but delights in airing his own opinions. (Proverbs 18:2)

He who answers before listening—that is his folly and his shame. (Proverbs 18:13)

Before You Talk

He who guards his lips guards his life, but he who speaks rashly will come to ruin. (Proverbs 13:3)

**Eliminate
Friendly
Fire**

Stop Gossiping! { *Without wood a fire goes out; without gossip a quarrel dies down. (Proverbs 26:20)*

Gossip { *A perverse man stirs up dissension, and a gossip separates close friends. (Proverbs 16:28)*

People { *He who covers over an offense promotes love, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends. (Proverbs 17:9)*

Gossip { *A fool's lips bring him strife, and his mouth invites a beating. A fool's mouth is his undoing, and his lips are a snare to his soul. (Proverbs 18:6-7)*

You

Aim for the

Speak Words that Give Life! { *The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life . . . (Proverbs 10:11)*
The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life . . . (Proverbs 15:4)
The lips of the righteous nourish many . . . (Proverbs 10:21)

The tongue has the power of life and death . . . (Proverbs 18:21)

*- Bonus Material –
More Powerful Proverbs*

Install a Silencer:

Do you see a man who speaks in haste? There is more hope for a fool than for him. (Proverbs 29:20)

A man who lacks judgment derides his neighbor, but a man of understanding holds his tongue. (Proverbs 11:12)

He who guards his mouth and his tongue keeps himself from calamity. (Proverbs 21:23)

The heart of the righteous weighs its answers, but the mouth of the wicked gushes evil. (Proverbs 15:28)

Avoid Friendly Fire: Don't Even Listen to Gossip

A wicked man listens to evil lips; a liar pays attention to a malicious tongue. (Proverbs 17:4)

A gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid a man who talks too much. (Proverbs 20:19)

Stay away from a foolish man, for you will not find knowledge on his lips. (Proverbs 14:7)

Aim for the Heart:

A man finds joy in giving an apt reply – and how good is a timely word! (Proverbs 15:23)

A wise man's heart guides his mouth, and his lips promote instruction. (Proverbs 16:23)

Gold there is, and rubies in abundance, but lips that speak knowledge are a rare jewel. (Proverbs 20:15)

The wise in heart are called discerning, and pleasant words promote instruction. (Proverbs 16:21)

A wise man's heart guides his mouth, and his lips promote instruction. Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. (Proverbs 16:23-24)