

# GUARD THE GATE

## *Guard Your Mouth*

### *Luke 6:43-49*

#### **Words Matter**

- We live in a world of words
- Virtually everything you need to do in life, words are involved in some way
- Words are not only vital to our lives, words have *power* **Proverbs 18:21 (KJV) 21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.**
- Words not only have power, words have *consequences* **Matthew 12:37 (KJV) 37 For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.**
- Words spoken without thought of their impact can be dangerous.
- There may be consequences for an ill-advised comment, text, social media post, etc.
- Our words acquit us or condemn
- Sometimes our words spoken in haste, anger,
- Our words will either be our salvation or our damnation
- Some of the words we say don't even belong to us, they are someone else's business
- When a person goes around telling other people's business, God calls them a gossip **Proverbs 11:13 (NLT) 13 A gossip goes around telling secrets, but those who are trustworthy can keep a confidence.**
- God is calling believers to watch what we say **Proverbs 13:3 (KJV) 3 He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction.**
- When we think about what we're saying and why we're saying it, we protect our lives
- But the person who opens their lip wide, the one who talks without thinking will eventually come to ruin

#### **What Kind of Fruit are You Producing?**

**Luke 6:43-49 (KJV) 43 For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 44 For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes. 45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.**

- Jesus tells us a tree is known by the fruit it bears
- A good tree is not expected to produce bad fruit
- A corrupt tree is not expected to produce good fruit
- What Jesus is saying is we can tell a lot about a person from the *fruit* they bear, by the *words* that they speak
- The words we speak are a product of what we *feed* ourselves
- Jesus says we can't get figs from a thorn bush, nor can we get a cluster of grapes from a bramble bush
- If our lives are feeding from the world, we can't expect to produce good fruit, grapes and figs
- To produce good fruit requires that our source of food be Jesus Christ and His Word

# GUARD THE GATE

## *Guard Your Mouth*

### *Luke 6:43-49*

- A good person out of the good treasure of their heart produces good fruit
- Likewise, an evil person out of the evil treasure of their heart will produce evil fruit
- Jesus is dealing with a person's mouth, the words we speak
- Jesus says out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks
- We speak from the abundance or the overflow that's in our heart
- What we say is not random, it's not out of thin air, it's from our heart
- Our words reveal
  - Our true nature, what we are really like beneath the surface
- **The words we speak is not based on “the condition of our tongue”, but *the condition of our heart***

#### ***Do You Mean What You Say?***

##### ***46 And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?***

- Jesus asks a powerful question, “Why call me Lord, Lord you don't do they things that I say?”
- People can say spiritual things about Jesus but really don't mean them
- Their words are nothing but words, but they want to give the impression of a something deeper, something spiritual
- Their words sound good, but their “spiritual life” has nothing to do with their daily life
- Our words are to have a *corresponding action* of what we believe, if they don't, our words are hollow
- Our words should show we live according to the Word of God
- Our faith in Jesus is not merely a “spoken testimony”, it's a *living testimony*

#### ***What's Your Foundation?***

***47 Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: 48 He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. 49 But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.***

- Jesus shares a parable of two men who were building houses
- One man chose to dig deep until he hit bedrock and laid the foundation of the house on the rock
- The other man built his house on earth, just the dirt without a foundation
- The storms came, the winds blew, the floodwaters rose, but the house was still standing because it as founded on the rock
- The house not attached to a foundation collapsed because it was not built for storms
- When our hearts are *anchored* in Jesus Christ, it will produce God-honoring speech
- Guarding or watching what we say is imperative for Christians because our speech reflects our relationship with God

# GUARD THE GATE

## *Guard Your Mouth*

### *Luke 6:43-49*

#### **Guarding Your Mouth**

- **Pray before you speak *Psalm 19:14 (KJV) 14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.***
  - You want the words you say to honor God
  - You want to consider what you're saying and how you're saying it
- **Ask God to guard your mouth *Psalm 141:3 (KJV) 3 Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips.***
  - Ask God to take control of what you say
  - Ask God to *guard your mouth and keep watch over the door of your lips*
  - Sometimes silence *speaks better* than words
- **Ask for forgiveness for something you've said**
  - We can say the wrong thing, or the right thing in the wrong way

**Speak in a way that builds people up *Ephesians 4:29 (KJV) 29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.***

- First of all, foul language, abusive language, vulgar language, unwholesome language, should never be the way Christians speak to anyone
- Let's speak words that build people up, encourage, help, minister to them, and speak according to the need of the moment
- **Speak the right words at the right time *Proverbs 25:11 (KJV) 11 A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.***
  - People need to hear sound advice at the right time
- **Rely on the Holy Spirit's help and guidance *Galatians 5:25 (KJV) 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.***
  - The Holy Spirit not only guides our steps, He guides our words
  - One fruit of the Spirit is temperance or self-control
  - The Holy Spirit will help you *learn* self-control
- **T.H.I.N.K. before you speak, THINK: T--Is it true? H--Is it helpful? I--Is it inspiring? N--Is it necessary? K--Is it kind?**
- If what you are about to say does not pass the T.H.I.N.K. test, don't say it!