

# The Tongue

*“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”*  
(Ephesians4:29)

What if you find a medical equipped bed that is just as an ordinary bed for a common purpose in a bedroom? Its special purpose and its expensive value is renounced.

In the early years, radio, television, audio/video machines, telephones and all other communication facilities were initially invented for noble purposes. But nowadays, these things are commonly used and become a source of crime, present x-rated shows and portray offensive and abusive acts. Hence, these beneficial equipment and technologies are found destroying lives and families instead of developing higher morale, quality and abundant life. Advance technologies are meant to develop people to be more productive but wrong purpose and motive grab important schedules and so diminish productivity. Defective programs are source of fear, anxiety, bad habits and behaviour; a source of temptation, immorality and idolatory; a source of ideas that spoil the mind, soul and body.

The same can be said about the tongue. It is to be used only to encourage, to edify, to teach and to give praise to God. But, *“with the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God’s likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be.”* (James3:9-10) *“For, whosoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech.”* (1Peter3:10) *Let us realize how we misuse our tongues:*

**1. Telling jokes:** These are mostly short created stories mixed with imaginations, or tricky questions to bring laughter into the atmosphere of people’s meetings. Telling jokes has negative effect because it motivates the mind to reason out unjustly, not accepting simple truths. It gives wrong input to the mind and stores up unnecessary things to the brain. So why do you keep garbage in your mind and try to give the same in the minds of other people around you!

**2. Speaking lies and flattery:** Transmitting wrong information about certain subject is lying. Giving dishonest compliment is flattering which is another form of lie. Speaking lies misleads people and brings confusion. Whenever you speak, there is always somebody listening that sometimes you don’t even know. And whatever you say he may take it from you as a fact and truth. So watch your mouth and scan what you speak before it comes out from your lips.

**3. Pronouncing curses:** Wishing and pronouncing bad things to happen to someone is cursing; like proclaiming sickness, death, loss, poverty, obstacle or problem.

**4. Blasphemy:** Anything spoken against God is a blasphemy; mocking or scorning, describes anger and unbelief in God in Christ and to the Holy Spirit.

**5. Speaking unwholesome words:** Uttering indecent and cheap words or expressions, and calling people by names of animals, or presenting offensive words to others are all unwholesome or dirty words that must not come out from our mouth.

Abuse of tongue brings evil not only to the person speaking but also to others:

**1. Bad effect for yourself:** As you improperly use the tongue, it will have detrimental effect on your reputation and consequently on your relation with people around. It discredits you from many privileges. It jeopardizes a lot of aspect of your personal, family, social and professional life. *“The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.”* (James3:6)

**2. Bad effect for others:** These people may be near you; like your children, your partner, parents, other relatives, or friends. On hearing what you speak they are either hurt and will avoid you. Or, they will learn to do the same; this is especially true if those who hear you are the children who see you as ideal figure. Children are imitators who record all what they hear in their young minds and afterwards will utter to others. *“The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.”* (Proverbs18:21)

**Therefore, let us speak words of instruction to find life:** Our words should be precise, decent and full of truth to gain respect, and to build faith in the heart of the hearers, so that they will accept God’s instruction that we share to them and they will find life in Christ Jesus.

**Let us speak words of hope and Love:** What kind of word is promising and can bring revival to a person’s heart? It is only the word that is full of love and truth; full of joy and hope-the word of God written in the Bible. God is love and His works are out of His great love. Whenever we speak the word of God to the people around us, gradually their lives are changed because the word of God is the light that removes the darkness from their lives. *“Let the word of Christ dwell in you rightly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.”* (Colossians3:16)

**My dear and beloved:** God has made us according to His likeness. Our tongue ought to speak the word of God, and we should use it for the glory of His name. The tongue has the power to give life to men, women, and children; but it could also bring us to hell. And it is entirely up to you to choose. If these words of God convict you today, pray this prayer from your heart: *Father God in heaven, please cleanse me by your blood, touch my tongue and lips, and purge me by the Holy Spirit. Help me Lord to follow your degrees; to praise you and to utter your words always. This is my prayer in Jesus’ name, Amen!*