

# WISE WORDS ON WORDS

*If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.*

*James 1:26*

All scriptures in the New International Version, unless otherwise noted.

Proverbs has a wealth of wisdom regarding our speech. God cares intensely about what we say and more importantly why we use the words we do. Consider these wise words on words, then spend at least 15 minutes per day before you leave the house and wash your mind with these warnings about your words.

Keep a log of 1) blessings God promises for a right use of your tongue & 2) negative consequences of sinful uses of your tongue. Remember, your words reveal your heart.

Matt. 12:34 You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.  
ESV

Talk a lot? - Sin a lot.  
Proverbs 10:19 When **words** are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise.

## MOUTH

### Proverbs 4:24

24 Put away perversity from your **mouth**;  
keep corrupt **talk** far from your **lips**.

Proverbs 6:2  
2 if you have been trapped by what you said,  
ensnared by the **words** of your **mouth**,

Proverbs 6:12  
12 A scoundrel and villain,  
who goes about with a corrupt **mouth**,

Prov 10:6  
6 Blessings crown the head of the righteous,  
but violence overwhelms the **mouth** of the wicked.

Prov 10:11  
11 The **mouth** of the righteous is a fountain of life,  
but violence overwhelms the **mouth** of the wicked.

Prov 10:14  
14 Wise men store up knowledge,  
but the **mouth** of a fool invites ruin.

Prov 10:31  
31 The **mouth** of the righteous brings forth wisdom,  
but a perverse **tongue** will be cut out.

Prov 10:32  
32 The **lips** of the righteous know what is fitting,  
but the **mouth** of the wicked only what is perverse.

Prov 11:9  
9 With his **mouth** the godless destroys his neighbor,  
but through knowledge the righteous escape.

Prov 11:11

11 Through the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, but by the **mouth** of the wicked it is destroyed.

Prov 15:2

2 The **tongue** of the wise commends knowledge, but the **mouth** of the fool gushes folly.

Prov 15:14

14 The discerning heart seeks knowledge, but the **mouth** of a fool feeds on folly.

Prov 15:28

28 The heart of the righteous weighs its answers, but the **mouth** of the wicked gushes evil.

Prov 16:10

10 The **lips** of a king speak as an oracle, and his **mouth** should not betray justice.

Prov 16:23

23 A wise man's heart guides his **mouth**, and his **lips** promote instruction.

Prov 18:4

4 The **words** of a man's **mouth** are deep waters, but the fountain of wisdom is a bubbling brook.

Prov 18:6

6 A fool's **lips** bring him strife, and his **mouth** invites a beating.

Prov 18:7

7 A fool's **mouth** is his undoing, and his **lips** are a snare to his soul.

Prov 18:20

20 From the fruit of his **mouth** a man's stomach is filled; with the harvest from his **lips** he is satisfied.

Prov 19:24

24 The sluggard buries his hand in the dish; he will not even bring it back to his **mouth!**

Prov 19:28

28 A corrupt witness mocks at justice, and the **mouth** of the wicked gulps down evil.

Prov 20:17

17 Food gained by fraud tastes sweet to a man, but he ends up with a **mouth** full of gravel.

Prov 21:23

23 He who guards his **mouth** and his **tongue** keeps himself from calamity.

Prov 22:14

14 The **mouth** of an adulteress is a deep pit; he who is under the LORD's wrath will fall into it.

Prov 26:7

7 Like a lame man's legs that hang limp  
is a proverb in the **mouth** of a fool.

Prov 26:9

9 Like a thornbush in a drunkard's hand  
is a proverb in the **mouth** of a fool.

Prov 26:28

28 A lying **tongue** hates those it hurts,  
and a flattering **mouth** works ruin.

Prov 27:2

2 Let another praise you, and not  
your own **mouth**;  
someone else, and not your own  
**lips**.

Prov 30:32

32 "If you have played the fool and  
exalted yourself,  
or if you have planned evil,  
clap your hand over your **mouth**!

## **TOUNGE**

Proverbs 6:17

17 haughty eyes, a lying **tongue**,  
hands that shed innocent blood,

Proverbs 6:24

24 keeping you from the immoral  
woman,  
from the smooth **tongue** of the  
wayward wife.

Proverbs 10:19

19 When **words** are many, sin is not  
absent,

but he who holds his **tongue** is wise.

Proverbs 10:20

20 The **tongue** of the righteous is  
choice silver,  
but the heart of the wicked is of little  
value.

Proverbs 10:31

31 The **mouth** of the righteous brings  
forth wisdom,  
but a perverse **tongue** will be cut  
out.

Proverbs 11:12

12 A man who lacks judgment  
derides his neighbor,  
but a man of understanding holds his  
**tongue**.

Proverbs 12:18

18 Reckless **words** pierce like a  
sword,  
but the **tongue** of the wise brings  
healing.

Proverbs 12:19

19 Truthful **lips** endure forever,  
but a lying **tongue** lasts only a  
moment.

Proverbs 15:2

2 The **tongue** of the wise commends  
knowledge,  
but the **mouth** of the fool gushes  
folly.

Proverbs 15:4

4 The **tongue** that brings healing is a  
tree of life,  
but a deceitful **tongue** crushes the  
spirit.

Proverbs 16:1

1 To man belong the plans of the heart,  
but from the LORD comes the reply of the **tongue**.

Proverbs 17:4

4 A wicked man listens to evil **lips**;  
a liar pays attention to a malicious **tongue**.

Proverbs 17:20

20 A man of perverse heart does not prosper;  
he whose **tongue** is deceitful falls into trouble.

Proverbs 17:28

28 Even a fool is thought wise if he keeps silent,  
and discerning if he holds his **tongue**.

Proverbs 18:21

21 The **tongue** has the power of life and death,  
and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Proverbs 21:6

6 A fortune made by a lying **tongue** is a fleeting vapor and a deadly snare.

Proverbs 21:23

23 He who guards his **mouth** and his **tongue** keeps himself from calamity.

Proverbs 25:15

15 Through patience a ruler can be persuaded,

and a gentle **tongue** can break a bone.

Proverbs 25:23

23 As a north wind brings rain,  
so a sly **tongue** brings angry looks.

Proverbs 26:28

28 A lying **tongue** hates those it hurts,  
and a flattering **mouth** works ruin.

Proverbs 28:23

23 He who rebukes a man will in the end gain more favor  
than he who has a flattering **tongue**.

Proverbs 31:26

26 She **speaks** with wisdom,  
and faithful instruction is on her **tongue**.

## SPEECH

Proverbs 1:21

21 at the head of the noisy streets she cries out,  
in the gateways of the city she makes her **speech**:

Proverbs 5:3

3 For the **lips** of an adulteress drip honey,  
and her **speech** is smoother than oil;

Proverbs 8:13

13 To fear the LORD is to hate evil;  
I hate pride and arrogance,  
evil behavior and perverse **speech**.

Proverbs 12:6  
6 The **words** of the wicked lie in wait for blood,  
but the **speech** of the upright rescues them.

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

Proverbs 22:11  
11 He who loves a pure heart and whose **speech** is gracious will have the king for his friend.

Proverbs 26:25  
25 Though his **speech** is charming,  
do not believe him,  
for seven abominations fill his heart.

## SPEAKS

Proverbs 8:7  
7 My mouth **speaks** what is true,  
for my **lips** detest wickedness.

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

Proverbs 16:13  
13 Kings take pleasure in honest **lips**;  
they value a man who **speaks** the truth.

Proverbs 29:20  
20 Do you see a man who **speaks** in haste?

There is more hope for a fool than for him.

Proverbs 31:26  
26 She **speaks** with wisdom,  
and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

## TALK

Proverbs 4:24  
24 Put away perversity from your mouth;  
keep corrupt **talk** far from your **lips**.

Proverbs 7:21  
21 With persuasive **words** she led him astray;  
she seduced him with her smooth **talk**.

Proverbs 12:13  
13 An evil man is trapped by his sinful **talk**,  
but a righteous man escapes trouble.

Proverbs 14:3  
3 A fool's **talk** brings a rod to his back,  
but the **lips** of the wise protect them.

Proverbs 14:23  
23 All hard work brings a profit,  
but mere **talk** leads only to poverty.

Proverbs 24:2  
2 for their hearts plot violence,  
and their **lips talk** about making trouble.

## TALKS

Prov 20:19

19 A **gossip** betrays a confidence;  
so avoid a man who **talks** too much.

## LIPS

Proverbs 4:24

24 Put away perversity from your  
mouth;  
keep corrupt talk far from your **lips**.

Proverbs 5:2

2 that you may maintain discretion  
and your **lips** may preserve  
knowledge.

Proverbs 5:3

3 For the **lips** of an adulteress drip  
honey,  
and her speech is smoother than oil;

Proverbs 8:6

6 Listen, for I have worthy things to  
say;  
I open my **lips** to speak what is right.

Proverbs 8:7

7 My mouth speaks what is true,  
for my **lips** detest wickedness.

Proverbs 10:13

13 Wisdom is found on the **lips** of the  
discerning,  
but a rod is for the back of him who  
lacks judgment.

Proverbs 10:18

18 He who conceals his hatred has  
lying **lips**,

and whoever spreads slander is a  
fool.

Proverbs 10:21

21 The **lips** of the righteous nourish  
many,  
but fools die for lack of judgment.

Proverbs 10:32

32 The **lips** of the righteous know  
what is fitting,  
but the mouth of the wicked only  
what is perverse.

Proverbs 12:14

14 From the fruit of his **lips** a man is  
filled with good things  
as surely as the work of his hands  
rewards him.

Proverbs 12:19

19 Truthful **lips** endure forever,  
but a lying tongue lasts only a  
moment.

Proverbs 12:22

22 The LORD detests lying **lips**,  
but he delights in men who are  
truthful.

Proverbs 13:2

2 From the fruit of his **lips** a man  
enjoys good things,  
but the unfaithful have a craving for  
violence.

Proverbs 13:3

3 He who guards his **lips** guards his  
life,  
but he who speaks rashly will come  
to ruin.

Proverbs 14:3

3 A fool's talk brings a rod to his back,  
but the **lips** of the wise protect them.

Proverbs 14:7

7 Stay away from a foolish man,  
for you will not find knowledge on his **lips**.

Proverbs 15:7

7 The **lips** of the wise spread knowledge;  
not so the hearts of fools.

Proverbs 16:10

10 The **lips** of a king speak as an oracle,  
and his mouth should not betray justice.

Proverbs 16:13

13 Kings take pleasure in honest **lips**;  
they value a man who speaks the truth.

Proverbs 16:23

23 A wise man's heart guides his mouth,  
and his **lips** promote instruction.

Proverbs 16:30

30 He who winks with his eye is plotting perversity; he who purses his **lips** is bent on evil.

Proverbs 17:4

4 A wicked man listens to evil **lips**;  
a liar pays attention to a malicious tongue.

Proverbs 17:7

7 Arrogant **lips** are unsuited to a fool-  
-how much worse lying **lips** to a ruler!

Proverbs 17:7

7 Arrogant **lips** are unsuited to a fool-  
-how much worse lying **lips** to a ruler!

Proverbs 18:6

6 A fool's **lips** bring him strife,  
and his mouth invites a beating.

Proverbs 18:7

7 A fool's mouth is his undoing,  
and his **lips** are a snare to his soul.

Proverbs 18:20

20 From the fruit of his mouth a man's stomach is filled;  
with the harvest from his **lips** he is satisfied.

Proverbs 19:1

1 Better a poor man whose walk is blameless  
than a fool whose **lips** are perverse.

Proverbs 20:15

15 Gold there is, and rubies in abundance,  
but **lips** that speak knowledge are a rare jewel.

Proverbs 22:18

18 for it is pleasing when you keep them in your heart and have all of them ready on your **lips**.

Proverbs 23:16  
16 My inmost being will rejoice  
when your **lips** speak what is right.

Proverbs 24:2  
2 For their hearts plot violence,  
and their **lips** talk about making  
trouble.

Proverbs 24:26  
26 An honest answer  
is like a kiss on the **lips**.

Proverbs 24:28  
28 Do not testify against your  
neighbor without cause, or use your  
**lips** to deceive.

Proverbs 26:23  
23 Like a coating of glaze over  
earthenware  
are fervent **lips** with an evil heart.

Proverbs 26:24  
24 A malicious man disguises himself  
with his **lips**, but in his heart he  
harbors deceit.

Proverbs 27:2  
2 Let another praise you, and not  
your own mouth; someone else, and  
not your own **lips**.

## GOSSIP

Proverbs 11:13  
13 A **gossip** betrays a confidence,  
but a trustworthy man keeps a  
secret.

Proverbs 16:28  
28 A perverse man stirs up dissension,

and a **gossip** separates close friends.

Proverbs 18:8  
8 The **words** of a **gossip** are like  
choice morsels;  
they go down to a man's inmost  
parts.

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

Proverbs 26:20  
20 Without wood a fire goes out;  
without **gossip** a quarrel dies down.

Proverbs 26:22  
22 The **words** of a **gossip** are like  
choice morsels; they go down to a  
man's inmost parts.

## SLANDER

Proverbs 10:18  
18 He who conceals his hatred has  
lying lips,  
and whoever spreads **slander** is a  
fool.

Proverbs 30:10  
10 "Do not **slander** a servant to his  
master,  
or he will curse you, and you will pay  
for it.

## WORDS

Proverbs 1:2  
2 for attaining wisdom and discipline;  
for understanding **words** of insight;

Proverbs 2:1

1 My son, if you accept my **words** and store up my commands within you,

Proverbs 2:12

12 Wisdom will save you from the ways of wicked men, from men whose **words** are perverse,

Proverbs 2:16

16 It will save you also from the adulteress, from the wayward wife with her seductive **words**,

Proverbs 4:4

4 he taught me and said, "Lay hold of my **words** with all your heart; keep my commands and you will live.

Proverbs 4:5

5 Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my **words** or swerve from them.

Proverbs 4:20

20 My son, pay attention to what I say; listen closely to my **words**.

Proverbs 5:1

1 My son, pay attention to my wisdom, listen well to my **words** of insight,

Proverbs 6:2

2 if you have been trapped by what you said,

ensnared by the **words** of your mouth,

Proverbs 7:11

My son, keep my **words** and store up my commands within you.

Proverbs 7:5

5 they will keep you from the adulteress, from the wayward wife with her seductive **words**.

Proverbs 7:21

21 With persuasive **words** she led him astray; she seduced him with her smooth talk.

Proverbs 8:8

8 All the **words** of my mouth are just; none of them is crooked or perverse.

Proverbs 10:19

19 When **words** are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise.

Proverbs 12:6

6 The **words** of the wicked lie in wait for blood, but the speech of the upright rescues them.

Proverbs 12:18

18 Reckless **words** pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

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

Proverbs 16:24  
24 Pleasant **words** are a honeycomb,  
sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.

Proverbs 17:27  
27 A man of knowledge uses **words** with restraint,  
and a man of understanding is even-tempered.

Proverbs 18:4  
4 The **words** of a man's mouth are deep waters,  
but the fountain of wisdom is a bubbling brook.

Proverbs 18:8  
8 The **words** of a gossip are like choice morsels;  
they go down to a man's inmost parts.

Proverbs 19:27  
27 Stop listening to instruction, my son,  
and you will stray from the **words** of knowledge.

Proverbs 22:12  
12 The eyes of the LORD keep watch over knowledge,  
but he frustrates the **words** of the unfaithful.

Proverbs 22:21  
21 teaching you true and reliable **words**,  
so that you can give sound answers to him who sent you?

Proverbs 23:9  
9 Do not speak to a fool,  
for he will scorn the wisdom of your **words**.

Proverbs 23:12  
12 Apply your heart to instruction and your ears to **words** of knowledge.

Proverbs 26:22  
22 The **words** of a gossip are like choice morsels;  
they go down to a man's inmost parts.

Proverbs 29:19  
19 A servant cannot be corrected by mere **words**;  
though he understands, he will not respond.

Proverbs 30:6  
6 Do not add to his **words**,  
or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar.

## **SILENT**

Prov 17:28  
28 Even a fool is thought wise if he keeps **silent**,  
and discerning if he holds his **tongue**.

## WISE PRAYERS ABOUT WORDS

Ps 141:3 **Set a guard over my mouth, O LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips.**

Ps 19:13-14 Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Then will I be blameless, innocent of great transgression. 14 **May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

## OTHER THOUGHTS ABOUT SPEECH

*Speech that is bitter, envious, selfish, concerned with earthly desires, full of disorder or evil, it is produced by a heart that is controlled by Satan. Ja.3*

*It is motivated by God and His Wisdom, it is full of:*

- Mercy
- Love for others
- Peace
- Consideration for others
- Submission
- Sincerity, impartiality
- Righteousness

## UNCLASSIFIED PASSAGES

Proverbs 19:9  
9 A false witness will not go unpunished,  
and he who **pours out lies** will perish.

Prov 20:6  
6 Many a man **claims** to have unfailing love,  
but a faithful man who can find?

Prov 20:20  
20 If a man **curse** his father or mother,  
his lamp will be snuffed out in pitch darkness.

Proverbs 20:2  
25 It is a trap for a man to **dedicate something rashly**  
and only later to consider his vows.