

“When Words Are Many: Blessing or Cursing?” (Part 1)
Proverbs 10:18-21

“We have been trained in the Church to minimize the warnings of the Scriptures, especially the warnings about our speech. Because we view grace as a license to not take sin seriously, our speech, at large, has been unaffected by the power of Christ.”

“With (our tongues) we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.” (James 3:9-10). “Their throat is an open grave; they use their tongues to deceive. The venom of asps is under their lips. Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness.” (Romans 3:13-14)

● **The Problem:**

- *“But no human being can tame the tongue. It is **a restless evil, full of deadly poison.**” (James 3:8)*
- *“They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness....They are full of....strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, slanderers....boastful....Though they know God’s righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, **they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.**” (Romans 1:29-32)*
- *“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.” (Exodus 20:16)*

● **The Hope:**

- *“Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it **may give grace to those who hear.**” (Ephesians 4:29)*
- *“Let your speech **always be gracious**, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.” (Colossians 4:6)*
- *“For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. The **good person out of his good treasure brings forth good**, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil.” (Matthew 12:34b-35)*

● **The Seriousness of Speech:**

- *“Whoever guards his mouth preserves his life; he who opens wide his lips **comes to ruin.**” (Proverbs 13:3)*
- *“An evil man **is ensnared** by the transgression of his lips, but the righteous escapes from trouble.” (Proverbs 12:13)*
- *“**Death** and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.” (Proverbs 18:21)*
- *“I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and **by your words you will be condemned.**” (Matthew 12:36-37)*

Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** Please see the February Newsletter for more information about this collection. ***THIS Sunday is the LAST day for this collection!***

★**FELLOWSHIP LUNCH:** We are having a Fellowship Lunch THIS Sunday, February 22nd, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the table in the Entryway, please sign up to bring something for the meal! Everyone is invited to stay to enjoy the food and the fellowship with us!

★**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** Men, the monthly Men's Breakfast is scheduled for THIS Saturday, February 21st, at the Big Apple Café — Log Pond location, at 7am. If you plan on attending, please let Pastor Zach know (740)618-0739.

★**CHURCH NIGHT OF PRAYER:** Our monthly Church Night of Prayer will be on Sunday, March 1st, from 5:30-7pm. During this prayer time we will be praying for specific prayer requests within the church body. Please consider joining us for a portion of this time or for the full time of prayer.

★*For all other announcements, please see the February Newsletter!*

Prayer Night — David and Tiffany Lamb

Please pray:

1. That we would shepherd and teach our kids well.
2. That Tiffany and I would abide in Him and seek His wisdom.
3. For spiritual protection over each of our kids by name (Luisa, Ari Jean, Madelyn, Benaiah and Simona).
4. For Tiffany and I to balance productivity/work with rest and quality family time. We have had a virus this last week with strange symptoms for different family members.
5. For opportunities for Tiffany and I to share the gospel in our work (Tiffany with her students and me with translation teams and our PNG neighbors).

Thank you for praying for us.