

“What I’m Saying May Be Killing Me”:

## The Power Of The Tongue



Proverbs 18:21

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## PART ONE

- The power of the tongue is immeasurable.
- Death and life are in the power of the tongue. (Proverbs 18:21)
- The tongue can be used for either good or bad.
- It can rarely be controlled, and can never be tamed. (James 3:8)

The tongue is a muscular organ principally used for taste and speech.

It is considered the strongest muscle in the human body and the **least controlled**.



## Psalms 119:103

"How sweet are your words to my taste! Yes, sweeter than honey to my mouth."

## Proverbs 18:21

"Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit."

## James 3:8

"But no one among mankind can tame the tongue; it is a restless evil, full of deadly poison."

## Proverbs 13:2-3

"From the fruit of a person's mouth he enjoys good, but the desire of the treacherous is violence. "One who guards his mouth protects his life; one who opens wide his lips comes to ruin."

## Proverbs 21:23

"One who guards his mouth and his tongue, guards his soul from troubles."



## Proverbs 17:20

"One who has a crooked mind finds nothing good, and one who is corrupted in his language falls into evil."

## Proverbs 18:6-7

"A fool's lips bring strife, and his mouth invites beatings." A fool's mouth is his ruin, and his lips are the snare of his soul."<sub>10</sub>

## Acts 8:37

If we fail to confess Jesus is the  
Christ we are not eligible for  
Baptism.

## 1 Timothy 4:16

"Pay close attention to yourself and to the teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will save both yourself and those who hear you."

## Matthew 12:36-37

"But I tell you that for every careless word that people speak, they will give an account of it on the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by **your words you will be condemned.**"

# Common Sins of the Tongue



- Talking too much
- Whispering Tongue
- Lying Tongue
- Flattering Tongue
- Angry Tongue
- Biting Tongue
- Profane Tongue

# Talking Too Much

**Proverbs 17:28:** *Even a fool, when he keeps silent, is considered wise; when he closes his lips, he is considered prudent.*

**Proverbs 15:2:** *The tongue of the wise makes knowledge pleasant, but the mouth of fools spouts foolishness.*

**Proverbs 15:28:** *The heart<sup>15</sup> of the righteous ponders how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things.*

**Proverbs 29:11:** *A fool always loses his temper, but a wise person holds it back.*

**1 Corinthians 2:13:** *We also speak these things, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those things taught by the spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.*

**2 Corinthians 4:13:** *But having the same spirit of faith, according to what is written: "I BELIEVED, THEREFORE I SPOKE," we also believe, therefore we also speak.*<sup>16</sup>



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Proverbs 18:21

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## PART TWO

# Whispering Tongue

**Proverbs 16:27:** *A worthless person digs up evil, while his words are like scorching fire.*

**Proverbs 11:13:** *One who goes about as a slanderer reveals secrets, but one who is trustworthy conceals a matter.*

**Proverbs 18:8:** *The words of a gossip are like dainty morsels.*

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**Proverbs 16:28:** *A perverse person spreads strife, and a slanderer separates close friends.*

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**Proverbs 17:9:** *One who conceals an offense seeks love, but one who repeats a matter separates close friends.*

**Proverbs 10:18:** *One who conceals hatred has lying lips, and one who spreads slander is a fool.*

**Proverbs 25:23:** *The north wind brings rain, and a gossiping tongue brings an angry face.*

**1 Peter 4:15:** *Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer,<sup>19</sup> or a troublesome meddler, but if anyone suffers as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify god in this name.*

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# Lying Tongue

**Proverbs 6:17:** *Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood.*

**Proverbs 12:22:** *Lying lips are an abomination to the lord, but those who deal faithfully are his delight.*

**Proverbs 12:19:** *Truthful lips will endure forever, But a lying tongue is only for a moment.*

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**Revelation 21:8:** *But for the cowardly, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and sexually immoral persons, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.*

# Flattering Tongue

**Proverbs 10:18:** *One who conceals hatred has lying lips, and one who spreads slander is a fool.*

**Proverbs 27:6:** *Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but deceitful are the kisses of an enemy.*

**Proverbs 28:23:** *One who rebukes a person will afterward find more favor than one who flatters with the tongue.*

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# Angry Tongue

**Proverbs 15:1:** *A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.*

**Proverbs 12:16:** *A fool's anger is known at once, but a prudent person conceals dishonor.*

**Proverbs 15:18:** *A hot-tempered person stirs up strife, but the slow to anger calms a dispute.*

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# Biting Tongue

**Proverbs 12:18:** *There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.*



# Profane Tongue

**Exodus 20:7:** *“You shall not take the name of the lord your god in vain, for the lord will not leave him unpunished who takes his name in vain.”*

**James 3:10:** *from the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, these things should not be this way.*

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**Ephesians 5:4:** *and there must be no filthiness or foolish talk or vulgar joking, which is not fitting, but rather giving thank.*

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# Proper Use of the Tongue



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- To Calm Anger
- To Sing Praises
- To Pray
- To Teach Knowledge
- To Rebuke Sin
- To Encourage Others

# To Calm Anger

**Proverbs 25:11:** *Like apples of gold in settings of silver, Is the word spoken at the proper time.*

**Proverbs 15:1:** *A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.*

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# To Sing Praises

**Ephesians 5:19:** *Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your hearts to the Lord.*

**Colossians 3:16:** *Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*

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# To Pray

**1 Thessalonians 5:17:** *Pray without ceasing.*

**1 John 5:14:** *This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.*

**1 Peter 3:12:** *FOR THE EYES OF THE LORD ARE TOWARD THE RIGHTEOUS, AND HIS EARS ATTEND TO THEIR PRAYER, BUT THE FACT OF THE LORD IS AGAINST EVILDOERS.*

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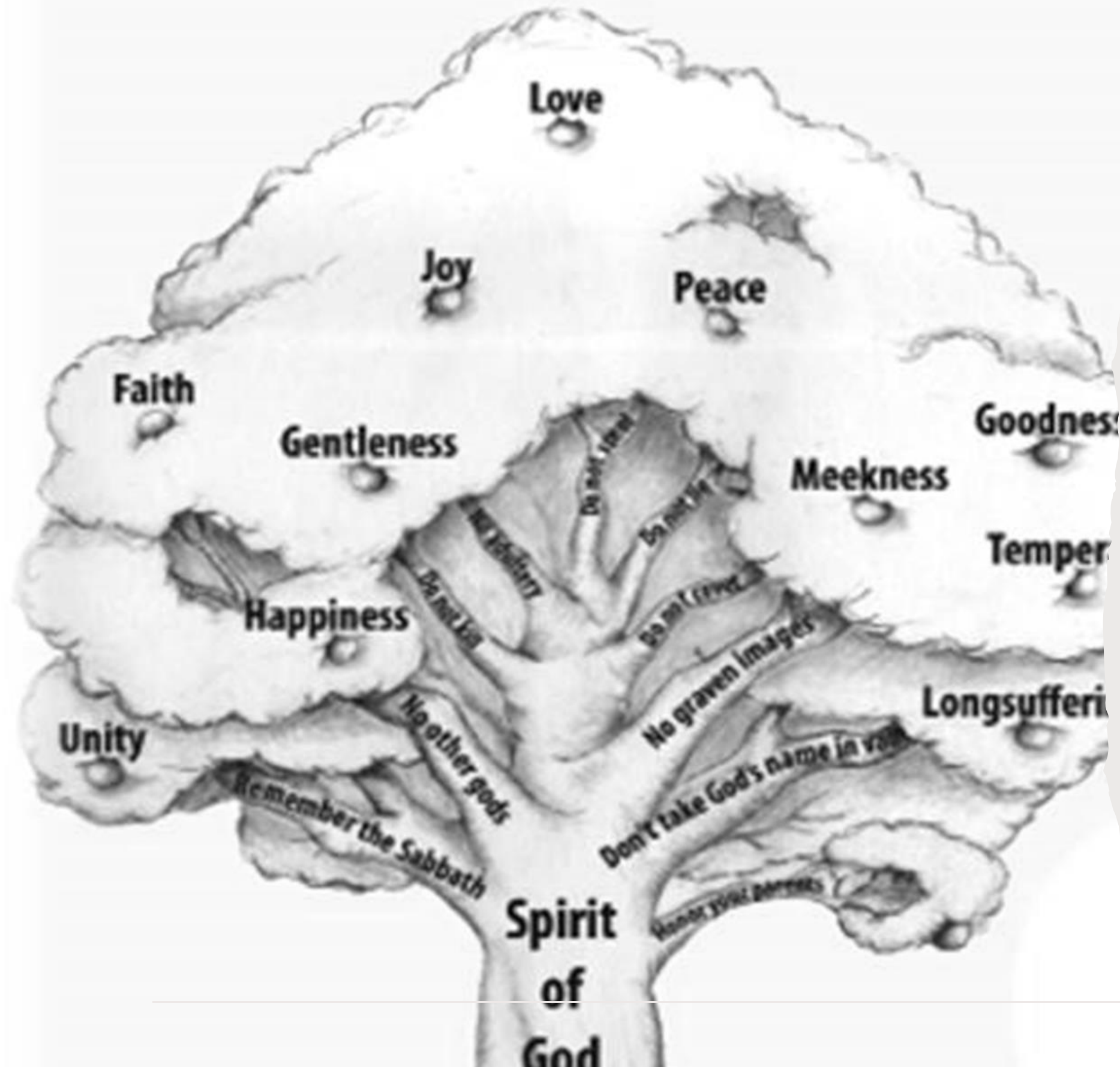
# To Teach Knowledge

**Proverbs 15:7:** *The lips of the wise spread knowledge, but the hearts of fools are not so.*

**2 Timothy 4:2-5:** *Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; correct, rebuke, and exhort with great patience and instruction. For the time will come when they will not tolerate sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance with their own desires, and they will turn their ears away from the truth and will turn aside to myths. But as for you, use self-restraint in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.*

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# Tree of Life



## Proverbs 11:30:

*The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and one who is wise gains souls.*

# To Rebuke Sin

**Proverbs 28:23:** *One who rebukes a person will afterward find more favor than one who flatters with the tongue.*

**Proverbs 15:10:** *There is severe punishment for one who abandons the way; one who hates a rebuke will die.*

**James 5:19:** *My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you strays from the truth and someone turns him back, let him know that the one who has turned a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.*

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## To Encourage Others

**Proverbs 15:23:** *A person has joy in an apt answer, and how delightful is a timely word.*

**Proverbs 15:26:** *Evil plans are an abomination to the Lord, but pleasant words are pure.*

**Proverbs 16:13:** *Righteous lips are the delight of kings, and one who speaks right is loved.*

**Proverbs 22:11:** *One who loves purity of heart and whose speech is gracious, the king is his friend.*

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**Proverbs 15:4:** *A soothing tongue is a tree of life, but perversion in it crushes the spirit.*

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

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

**Proverbs 10:20:** *The tongue of the righteous is like choice silver, the heart of the wicked is worth little.*

**Proverbs 10:21:** *The lips of the righteous feed many, but fools die for lack of understanding.*

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Learn to speak an encouraging word, to comfort those who are suffering, and to express your love for God and His Word by lifting up your voice in song and in prayer.

Above all, we never use our tongue more effectively than when we use it to win souls by speaking sound doctrine, by declaring the oracles and whole counsel of God.

*Whoever speaks is to do so as one who is speaking actual words of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

(1 Peter 4:11)

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