

Paths of Wisdom: Wise Speech

May 2, 2021

Story of Luke Ditewig: questions, attention. Wisdom!

What was the last time you had a conversation you walked away from and said 'there was wisdom there'?

The power of the tongue: Prov 18:21a: "Death and life are in the power of the tongue..."

We can't underestimate the power of wise speech. James 3:3-5a

The power of words: Kevin's youth pastor who hurt with words.

Goal: not just looking wise, but being wise.

Proverbs: a master's course in speech. Around 44 verses on speech (out of 915).

Prov 18:4: The words of a man's mouth are deep waters; the fountain of wisdom is a bubbling brook.

Wise speech is the right word spoken at the right time with the right intentions in the right tone to the right person from the right person.

*Wise speech is the **right word**.*

Proverbs 12:19: The right word is true (not shading it for the moment or the audience). "Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment."

Prov 25:18: The right word brings life, not death. "A man who bears false witness against his neighbor is like a war club, or a sword, or a sharp arrow." "Sticks and stones..." Gossip and slander.

*Wise speech is the right word spoken at the **right time**.*

Proverbs 12:18a: The right time is patient. "There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts," Right time brings life, not death.

My talk with Clay about teaching Sunday School. Wrong time could have crushed me.

Right time: in private? Is their heart ready? Slow to speak.

*Wise speech is the right word spoken at the right time with the **right intentions**.*

Prov 12:18: Right intentions desire healing—life. "There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing."

Prov 12:6: Right intentions desire rescue. "The words of the wicked lie in wait for blood, but the mouth of the upright delivers them."

Proverbs 13:2b: Right intentions desire peace. "... but the desire of the treacherous is for violence."

Proverbs 27:2: Right intentions are humble. "Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips."

Ephesians 4:15: Right intentions are loving. "Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ..."

My talk with Dr. Wilson about being a Detention Officer.

*Wise speech is the right word spoken at the right time with the right intentions in the **right tone**.*

Prov 15:1 The right tone is gentle. "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

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Failures as a dad. Not dropping truth bombs. Not to crush. The danger of social media and email. Is it life giving?

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Proverbs 12:15: The right person is ready to receive wisdom. “The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.”

Matthew 7:6: “Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.” Type? Scornful? Foolish? Simple? Wise? Responding to criticism re: blog.

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Proverbs 10:8: The right person knows if they have the credibility to offer wisdom. “The wise of heart will receive commandments, but a babbling fool will come to ruin.”

Social media: might be best to send a direct message.

Don't listen to my car advice. Conversation with Sarah and Anders about finances.

Story of meeting with Jon at Starbucks.

Is there someone else? Not an out for lack of courage. Pray: ask the Holy Spirit.

Jesus: the paragon of wise speech.

Why he spoke so differently to the Pharisees, Pilate, Zaccheus, and the woman at the well. Jesus overhears the foolish talk of his disciples. Luke 9:46-48

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Call to repentance for speaking our tongues. Repent to God. Repent to others. Today: an opportunity to bring death or life. Bring life.