Instructions for the Game of Life (Part 10)

(Proverbs 25:11)

Instructions for Those Who Need a Vocabulary

Introduction: The words we use and the words we choose are important! That's why it so important for us to go to the book of Proverbs where we find instructions for the game of life. And get instructions for our vocabulary.

What Solomon is saying:

We need to...

I. Speak <u>profitable</u> words:

- Using the right words at the right time is as beautiful as gold on silver and as valuable as these two precious metals.
- Equally as destructive is a wrong or cross word spoken (James 3:5-12)
- The book of Proverbs speaks often of the tongue's power to hurt or to heal. So, because our words have the power to change lives, we need to be sure we speak profitable words... For example:
- **A.** Profitable for saving the lost. "Death and life are in the power of the tongue." Prov. 18:21)
- **B. Profitable for serving God.** (Col 4:6)
- C. Profitable for strengthening the weak. (Prov.15:4,23).

We need to

II. Speak pure words: (Eph. 4:29)

Pure words can only come from a pure heart. Jesus said, "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks" (Mt. 12:34).

A. We should use scriptural language as much as possible. (Col.3:1-17)

B. We should use spotless language.

If you don't think people are listening to what we are saying and how we are saying it as Christians, "You couldn't be more mistaken!"

C. We should use saintly language. (Gal.5:15; Eph. 4:32).

We need to

III. Speak pleasant words: (Jas. 1:19; Prov.16:24)

Someone said, "Make your words sweet; you may have to eat them."

Make sure they are words that...

- **A. Praise God** (Eph 5:19-20)
- **B. Point toward God (Mt.12:36-37).**
- C. Promote what God is doing- (Prov 15:7;Prov 16:21)

We need to

IV. Speak <u>prepared</u> words: "The heart of the righteous weighs its answers, but the mouth of the wicked gushes evil." (Prov 15:28)

How does one prepare their words?

- **A. Fill your heart with scripture -** Compare the results of these two passages. (Eph 5:18-19; Col 3:16-17)
- B. Focusing on doing what's right, not what makes you feel good.
- **C. Finding God's will for your conversation.** (1 Cor 2:13) All of us like the Psalmist would be wise to pray for the Lord to "Set a guard over my mouth, O LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips." (Ps 141:3)

Conclusion: It's much easier to just to let our words fly; but don't let them...instead commit today to be one who... when you do speak, your words will be like golden apples in settings of silver to all who hear them.