

# Connection Group Questions

Taken from the sermon on October 1, 2017

## ***Proverbs: Words to the Wise - 2***

### **Questions for PERSONAL GROWTH**

**Monday: *First things first...*** Before we dig into the lessons for this week, let's take a little time to review (a) the personal benefits of studying this particular book, (b) what wisdom is, (c) how to acquire it, and (d) what it means to "fear the Lord". So, with that in mind, please read Proverbs 1 as well as Proverbs 9:10, Ecclesiastes 12:13; Matthew 10:28; and Philippians 2:12-13.

**Tuesday: *My gift to you...*** Eric asked the question: "Have you ever thought of communication as a gift?" In what ways is communication truly a gift from God to you? How have you been used by God to bless others with this "gift"? Please read and meditate on Proverbs 12:14 and 13:2. What benefit can our words have? How are they "good" and "satisfying"?

**Wednesday: *You've got the power...*** If you can communicate, then you have tremendous power. Our primary passage this week elevates communication to the highest degree: Proverbs 18:21. Please read and re-read that passage. How is the "power of death" in the tongue? And, conversely, how is the "power of life" in the tongue? Please read James 3:2-12 and flesh those answers out in your own words.

**Thursday: *The heart of the matter...*** Our mouths are like faucets - they are used for pouring out, but they are not the source. Jesus made this point very clear: in the realm of communication, the heart of the matter is the heart. Please read and re-read Matthew 12:33-37. What safeguards do you have in place to avoid uttering "careless" words (v.36)? And, what is a daily habit you could employ in your morning routine to set your heart in the right direction? [Is there anything in your heart today that's not of God? Ask Him to purge it out by the renewing work of His Holy Spirit.]

**Friday: *Speak life...*** Eric made that astute observation that, in life, it not only matters what we say to others, but what we say to ourselves. Have you ever heard "words of death" before (either from another person or from yourself)? Spend some time in prayer today and ask God to bring some "words of life" to mind. Speak them to whomever God puts on your heart - even yourself.

### **Questions for GROUP DISCUSSION**

- Share your favorite superhero movie and why?
- Share when someone's words brought you "life" and/or "death"?
- What does a person's speech say about their spiritual condition?