

Faith and Love C.O.G.I.C Bible Band

Lesson 4 January 16, 2024

SPEAKING WELL OF OTHERS



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▶ Background Reading:

- ▶ James 4:11-17
- ▶ 1 John 2:16
- ▶ 1 Peter 2:1
- ▶ Ephesians 4:31
- ▶ Ecclesiastes 7:22

▶ Devotional Reading:

- ▶ Colossians 3:1-11

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Background Scripture: James 4:11-17

11 Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge.

12 There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?

13 Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:



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Background Scripture: James 4:11-17

14 Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

15 For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.

16 But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil.

17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.



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Background Scripture: 1 John 2:16; 1 Peter 2:1

1 John 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

1 Peter 2:1 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

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Background Scripture: Ephesians 4:31; Ecclesiastes 7:22

Eph. 4:31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:

Ecc. 7:22 For oftentimes also thine own heart knoweth that thou thyself likewise hast cursed others.



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Devotional Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

- 1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.
- 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.
- 3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.
- 4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

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Devotional Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

6 For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

7 In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.



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Devotional Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

8 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

11 Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.



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Central Verse: Isaiah 59:13, KJV

In transgressing and lying against the Lord,
departing away from our God, speaking
oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering
from the heart words of falsehood.



INTRODUCTION

God is a God of truth and honesty, and He encourages His children not to lie to each other (Col. 3:9). Knowing the truth brings us freedom for truth is unchangeable. It is always true despite how one feels about it, even when people don't believe it, it remains true. David said that God desires truth in the inward part (Ps. 51:6). From the depths of the soul, truth should come forth. Believers must speak the truth in love (Eph. 4:15). Someone said, "If you can't say something nice, don't say anything." All things are lawful, but not always expedient because all things do not edify (1 Cor. 10:23).

INTRODUCTION

Sometimes, it is necessary to hold your peace and don't say anything. Words have a way of getting people in trouble that many times, they cannot get out of because words spoken cannot be recalled. Some words can be hurtful and destructive, so we must be careful about uttering words without thinking. Paul said all things may be lawful, but not expedient. Therefore, we must talk about what we know and testify to what we see. We are admonished to stay out of conversations that generate confusion and strife.

INTRODUCTION

Paul tells the church that believers must set their love on things above and not on things of the earth. We cannot focus on the lust of the eye, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life or it will control us. The only way we will be able to speak well of others is that we must have some changes made in our hearts. Paul tells the believer to mortify his member, so that unclean thoughts and actions will leave the heart and will prevent filthy communication from coming out of the mouth. Only when the peace of God is ruling in our heart will the good words of Christ dwell in us and allow us to speak good and wholesome words to and about others.

DISCUSSION

In the book of James, he had been dealing with issues that came from pride in the heart of church members. His focus was on members who were slandering and judging one another. Some who were blessed with material things were looking down their noses at others who were not as blessed as they seemed to be. He was aware that gossiping and lying were going on in the Church communities, and he felt it necessary to remind them that God was not pleased. This kind of behavior was not acceptable among God's believers.

DISCUSSION

He also reminded them that all that they had came from God, and it was not nice to judge others or boast about what they had, because just as they got, they could lose it. Material things are temporary, here today and gone tomorrow.

James told the believers not to slander or judge one another, not to boast in their arrogant schemes, for boasting and judging is evil. He told the believers that if they knew to do good and did not do it, they were sinners.

DISCUSSION

He cautioned the believers to be careful with their emotions, don't allow feelings to build inside of them until they become explosive. Deal with things before anger builds to wrath. If we do not deal with wrath, it will become so hot that it will explode upon everyone, even those who do not deserve it.

DISCUSSION

Before we speak, we should weigh our words, and allow God's Word to lead our hearts. When there is chaos, we need to refrain from speaking recklessly and guard our words carefully. Many things that God has for us can be destroyed when we speak prematurely or recklessly. We need to think and ponder over words before we utter anything, for this might be the saving of our spiritual life.

CONCLUSION

It is very easy to fall into the trap of pride, when a person thinks more highly of themselves than they ought, they come under false delusion. God wants us to realize that we are fearfully and wonderfully made. He wants us to make plans, but while we are making plans, do not leave God out of the plans. Acknowledge that God has ultimate control of our tomorrows. He warns never try to lift ourselves up at the expense of others but lift our brothers and God will send someone who will lift us.

CONCLUSION

When we don't love ourselves, it is difficult to love others. This allows people to slander, lie, mistreat, and do other inappropriate things to fellow believers. It is very difficult to see the value in others when you don't see value in yourself. Many times, a prideful heart prevents a person from seeing themselves as God's creation and masterpiece. It becomes impossible to see others as God created them.

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ESSENTIAL THOUGHT

Be careful little tongue what you say, for
God hears and is watching you.



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Next Lesson:

January 23, 2024

Lesson 5

**Submitting to God is Part of the Believer's
Commitment**

