

## How should we use our tongue for the Lord?

### A. We should take time daily to speak with the Lord.

**Hebrews 4:16** “Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”

**Luke 18:1** “Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.”

### B. We should share the gospel with others.

**Matthew 28:19** “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

**Matthew 28:20** “And teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

### C. We should honor God with our speech and behavior.

**Ephesians 4:29** “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”

**Ephesians 5:8** “For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light. <sup>[9]</sup> For the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth.”

## Honor the Lord with the Words You Speak!

Colossians 4:2-6

Lesson #15

4/7/24

**Proverbs 21a** “The tongue has the power of life and death ....”

**Proverbs 12:25** “An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind word cheers him up.”

### I. Our speech should be expressed through prayer with gratitude.

#### A. We should commit to continual prayer.

**\*\*Colossians 4:2a** “Devote yourselves to prayer, ....”

**Acts 1:14** “They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.”

**Acts 2:42** “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

**Ephesians 6:18** “And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.”

**I Thessalonians 3:10** “Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.”

**I Thessalonians 5:17** “Pray continually.”

#### B. We should be continually cautious and alert as we pray.

**Colossians 4:2b** “... being watchful ....”

**Matthew 26:41** “Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

**Ephesians 6:18b** “... to be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.”

#### C. We should be continually grateful during our prayers.

**Colossians 4:2c** "... and thankful."

## 1. We should always thank the Lord for everything.

**Philippians 4:6** "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

**Ephesians 5:20** "Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

**I Thessalonians 5:18** "Give thanks in all circumstances ...."

## 2. We should give thanks because it is God's will.

**I Thessalonians 5:18** "Give thanks in all circumstances for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

## II. Our speech should evangelize others with the gospel.

### A. Paul wanted prayer for God to open the door for the gospel.

**Colossians 4:3** "And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that, we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains."

**Acts 14:27** "On arriving there, they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles."

**Acts 16:9** "During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."  
[10] After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them."

**I Corinthians 16:8** "But I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost,  
[9] Because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me."

**2 Corinthians 2:12** "Now when I went to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ and found that the Lord had opened a door for me."

**Acts 28:30** "For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. [31] Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ."

### B. Paul wanted prayer so he would share the gospel clearly.

**Colossians 4:4** "Pray that I may proclaim it clearly as I should."

## III. Our speech and conduct should be an example to others.

### A. Godly speech should match Godly living.

**Colossians 4:5a** "Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; ...."

**I Thessalonians 4:11** "Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you, [12] so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody."

**I Timothy 3:7** "He must have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap."

**I Peter 3:1** "Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that if any of them do not believe the word they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives."

### B. Godly servants should seize opportunities to minister.

**Colossians 4:5b** "... make the most of every opportunity."

## IV. Our speech should explain the truth gracefully.

**Colossians 4:6** "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone."

**I Peter 3:15** "But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."