

July 3, 2024 - Fireworks

Fireworks can be fun. Beautiful. Excitement. “Fire in the Hole” - Run!
Fireworks in our lives is not fun, or good, they’re bad. 4 truths.

1 - Fireworks in our lives? Drama. Anger. Tempers.

- Tempers explode, b/c some people have a **short fuse**.

Short fuse – you run fast. People w/ a short fuse, same thing.

People don’t want to be close to short fuses, or short tempers.

Good, compassion, loving people don’t want it.

- Drama? Always some issue... something wrong... Same. It’s FIREWORKS.

Fireworks begin w/fire. Fireworks in our lives begin same way - w/ tongue:

James 3:6 – “And among all the parts of the body, the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself.”

- We have troubling taming it... we all struggle in this area.
- **James 3:8**– “No one can tame the tongue.” Say things we regret
 - It can corrupt your relationships, work enviro... life.
 - Jesus: we’re defiled by what comes out of our mouths

2 - Recognize what your words can be: fire. Destructive.

- **Prov. 16:27** - [New Revised Standard Version](#)- “Scoundrels concoct evil, and their speech is like a scorching fire.”
- **Prov. 21:23** – “Whoever guards his mouth and his tongue keeps himself out of trouble.”

Think. Use words carefully. **Leave Holes in heart.**

Be uplifting, not destructive. Positive.

- **Eph. 4:29** - [Good News Translation](#) – “Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed, so that what you say will do good to those who hear you.”



3 - Love & Romance are often spoken of as **fireworks**.

But love is beautiful, it's not combustible. **What is? Anger.**

- We're seeing/hearing "verbal fireworks," "political fireworks."
- Fireworks is used as a **metaphor** for romance & passion, but the word started out as a **synonym** for **anger**.
- **Don't confuse love w/ fireworks. Truth:** real love isn't fireworks.
- It is Peace. Calm. Constant. Centered. Grounded. Still, not flying off. Some might say boring, but that's not right; true love isn't high drama.
 - o True love respects the other; is kind, patient, not easily angered.
 - Excitement comes from activities, seeing one another ... but not the relationship. Good relationships aren't Fireworks.

4 - We were called to let our lights shine.

- **Daniel 12:3** – "Those who are wise will shine as bright as the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness will shine like the stars forever"
 - o Jesus referred to John/Baptist as "a lamp that burned & gave light" – **John 5:35**
- Be the light for someone. **Shine, & sparkle.** Share insight. Wisdom.
- Don't let anyone put out your light. Or your sparkler.

Song of the week – "Shine Like Stars" –