The words we speak, and the words we do not speak, matter to God.

1. Words that glorify God
   
   A. _______________ words
      Proverbs 10:20, 21, 31, 32
   
   B. ____________ words
      Proverbs 15:7, 31:26
   
   C. __________________ words
   
   D. ___________ words
      Proverbs 12:14, 13:2, 18:20

2. Words that do not glorify God
   
   A. ____________
      Proverbs 16:28, 11:9, 18:8, 26:22
   
   B. ____________
      Proverbs 4:24, 6:12, 8:13, 16:27; Ephesians 5:4; James 3:8-12
   
   C. ____________

3. How to choose the wise path: James 1:19
   
   A. Be quick to __________
      Proverbs 2:6, 22:17-18, 8:6-8
      
      Work __________
      1 Timothy 5:13-15
      
      Control your __________
      Proverbs 25:15, 15:1
      
      Avoid bad __________
      Proverbs 17:4, 20:19, 24:1-2
      
      Guard your __________
      Proverbs 5:3, 7:21
   
   B. Be slow to __________
      
      Don't say __________
      
      Think and __________ before you speak
Each week this section will provide next steps for going deeper with the sermon material, as well as preparing for discussion in your Grow Group. Bring this sheet with you to your group meeting.

1. Read James 3:3-12.

To what does James compare the human tongue? Are these appropriate comparisons? Why?

In your own words, explain verses 3 - 6.

In your own words, explain verses 9 - 12.

2. Place an “X” along the continuum representing the frequency of each type of words in your life.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Words</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Righteous words</td>
<td>Often</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wise words</td>
<td>Often</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edifying words</td>
<td>Often</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-sustaining words</td>
<td>Often</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gossip</td>
<td>Often</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crude speech</td>
<td>Often</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lying</td>
<td>Often</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

3. Read the following verses. If a phrase seems to “jump out at you”, underline it. Take a moment to re-read these phrases and think about them. Be quick to hear from God’s Word. Write down any application you can make in your life.

“Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.”
(Ephesians 4:15–16 ESV)

“Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.”
(Ephesians 4:25 ESV)

“Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.”
(Ephesians 4:29–5:1 ESV)

“Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.”
(Ephesians 5:4 ESV)

“Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not become partners with them;”
(Ephesians 5:6–7 ESV)

Application: