

Guest Articles - cont.

swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage.” (Jude 16)

The Bible teaches us how to be considered wise and spread righteous influence with our tongues.

Let your words be few – “In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise. The tongue of the righteous is choice silver; the heart of the wicked is worth little” (Proverbs 10:19-20).

Let your words be well chosen – “The heart of the righteous studies how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours forth evil” (Proverbs 15:28).

Let your words be spoken with grace – “Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one” (Colossians 4:6).

We need to give consideration to what we say. The Bible warns us about idle words. “But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment” (Matthew 12:36). Even words that we say in leisure are words that may affect the destiny of our souls. Let us be careful what we say.

Gospel Meeting

Speaker: Frank Richey of Florence, AL.
Date: September 20-23
Theme: What Shall I Do With Jesus?
Lessons:

Thursday through Saturday

1. What Shall I Do With Jesus? (7 pm)
2. Accept Jesus As My Shepherd (7 pm)
3. Recognize His Greatness (7 pm)

Sunday

4. Live My Life for Jesus (9:30 am)
5. His Last Sermon (10:30 am)
6. Teach the Gospel of Jesus (6:00 pm)

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ
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Website
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Assembly Times
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm
Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome!
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THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

Ruining Your Influence Through Inconsistency

Your reputation and influence is important and valuable. The scriptures teach how your influence is more valuable than precious ointment or even great wealth.

“A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one’s birth” (Ecclesiastes 7:1). “A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold” (Proverbs 22:1).

Christ taught His disciples that their influence upon those around them and upon the world was of tremendous importance. In Matthew 5:13-16, Jesus points out that we are the light of the world and the salt of the earth. These are expressions of influence. God wants Christians to have an influence on the sinful world in which they live.

There are any number of ways that we can lose our flavor, hide our light, or ruin our reputation and influence. Inconsistency is one of these ways. One of the great disappointments we see in people is their inconsistency in how they apply one set of rules to themselves and their friends and another to their foes. As proverbs says:

“The legs of the lame are not equal: so is a parable in the mouth of fools” (Proverbs 26:7).

Here we see that a fool is inconsistent in the application of a parable. Such inconsistency and hypocrisy will cause one not to listen to what they say or read what they write. How can I follow or listen to advice from someone who is so inconsistent? If we are inconsistent in our life and example, we will not have a good influence on others. The preacher said “... Dead flies putrefy the perfumer’s ointment, And cause it to give off a foul odor; So does a little folly to one respected for wisdom and honor” (Ecclesiastes 10:1)

The world is always trying to catch those who profess to be Christians in inconsistency. This is why those in the world ridicule and mock those who profess religion and yet get caught in corruption and immorality, like Jim and Tammy Baker and Jimmy Swaggart. God warns us against the gross immorality and hypocrisy of inconsistently saying one thing and doing another. Remember the words of Paul... “You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal?” (Romans 2:21)

Ruining Your Influence Through An Uncontrolled Tongue

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portant and valuable. The scriptures teach how your influence is more valuable than precious ointment or even great wealth. “A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one’s birth” (Ecclesiastes 7:1). “A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold” (Proverbs 22:1).

There are few things that will destroy one’s influence faster than a loose tongue. The Bible says, “...a fool’s voice is known by his many words” (Ecclesiastes 5:3). Some of the terms used in the Bible to describe an uncontrolled tongue are:

Braggarts - “Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; A stranger, and not you own lips” (Proverbs 27:2).

Talebearers – “Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; and where there is no talebearer, strife ceases. As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire, so is a contentious man to kindle strife. The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles, and they go down into the inmost body” (Proverbs 26:20-22).

Complainers – “These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great