



Sunday, August 22, 2021 AVBC

The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit. (Proverbs 18:21) (16:24, 27)

Choice 1: Talk a _____ or talk a _____
(Proverbs 10:8,10, 19; 12:18, 23; 13:3; 15:2; 18:2)

A truly wise person uses few words; a person with understanding is even-tempered. Even fools are thought to be wise when they keep silent; when they keep their mouths shut, they seem intelligent. (Proverbs 17:27,28)

Choice 2- Keep it to _____ or _____
(Proverbs 10:18; 11:9,13; 18:8; 20:19; 26:20, 22)

Disregarding another person's faults preserves love; telling about them separates close friends. (Proverbs 17:9)

Choice 3: Tell the _____ or tell a _____
(Proverbs 2:5; 12:17; 14:5, 25; 17:4,7; 28:23)

For you are the children of your father the Devil, and you love to do the evil things he does. He was a murderer from the beginning and has always hated the truth. There is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies. (John 8:44)

One who conceals hatred has lying lips, And one who spreads slander is a fool. (Proverbs 10:18)

An honest answer is like a kiss on the lips. (Proverbs 24:26)

There is no intimacy without _____ and
there is no truth without _____.

Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. (Ephesian 4:15)

Choice 4: Speak _____ or speak _____

Patience can persuade a prince, and soft speech can crush strong opposition. (Proverbs 25:15) (Proverbs 15:1)

An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind word cheers him up. (Proverbs 12:25)

DIGGING DEEPER

(For use in personal/family devotions or with your care group)

Q1: Can you think of a time when talking too much got you into trouble? If so, explain.

Q2: Can you think of a time when you should have spoken up but didn't and later regretted it? If so explain.

Q3: What does the passage tell you about controlling the power of the tongue?

So also, the tongue is a small thing, but what enormous damage it can do. A tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. ⁶ And the tongue is a flame of fire. It is full of wickedness that can ruin your whole life. It can turn the entire course of your life into a blazing flame of destruction, for it is set on fire by hell itself. (James 3:5,6)

Q4: Consider the following list of consequences for lying. Which one do you think is the most devastating? What else would you add to this list?

- **Crushed 'spirit'** [Proverbs 15:4]
- **Diminished influence.**

Truthful lips endure forever, by a lying tongue lasts only a moment." (Proverbs 12:19)

- **Troubles and Problems**

The crooked heart will not prosper; the twisted tongue tumbles into trouble. [Proverbs 17:20]

- **Punishment** [19:5,9; 21:28]

"A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who pours out lies will not go free." [Proverbs 19:5]

- **Broken relationship with the Lord**

"The Lord detests lying lips, but He delights in men who are truthful." [Proverbs 12:22]

Q5: Of the five choices Pastor David mentioned, which one is the most challenging one for you? Why is that? What can you do to strengthen this part of your life?

Q6: Read Proverbs 16:13. Why do leaders value truthfulness so much?