

40 Days of Love – Week 3
Loving With Your Words
Pastor Steve Davidson
January 30 & 31, 2010

All of us often make mistakes. But if a person never makes a mistake in what he says, he is perfect... James 3:2a (TEV)

- **My Words DIRECT Where I Go.** James 3:3-5
- **My Words Can DESTROY What I Have.** James 3:5-6
- **My Words DISPLAY Who I Really Am.** James 3:10-12

... words flow out of what fills the heart. Matthew 12:34b (NJB)

Your souls aren't harmed by what you eat, but by what you think and say! Mark 7:15 (TLB)

1. Relate with Respectfully Assertive Words

... speaking the truth in love... Ephesians 4:15a (NIV)

It is better to correct someone openly than to have love and not show it. Proverbs 27:5 (NCV)

Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 1 Corinthians 13:6 (NIV)

2. Communicate with Carefully Guarded Words

In your anger do not sin. Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold. Ephesians 4:26-27 (NIV)

- **To Protect their Dignity**
Watch your words and hold your tongue; you'll save yourself a lot of grief. Proverbs 21:23 (Msg)
- **To Protect the Bond Of Love**
... a gossip separates close friends. Proverbs 16:28b (NIV)

3. Motivate with Caringly Constructive Words

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. Ephesians 4:29 (TEV)

- **Kind Words Can Transform Worry to Joy**
Worry can rob you of happiness, but kind words will cheer you up. Proverbs 12:25 (TEV)
- **Gentle Words Can Break through Anger**
A gentle answer quiets anger, but a harsh one stirs it up. Proverbs 15:1 (TEV)
- **Pleasant Words Can Encourage Openness**
... pleasant words promote instruction. Proverbs 16:21b (NIV)
- **Honest words Can Make Us Feel Loved**
An honest answer is like a kiss on the lips. Proverbs 24:26 (NIV)
- **Wise Words Can Heal a Broken Heart**
Thoughtless words can wound as deeply as any sword, but wisely spoken words can heal. Proverbs 12:18 (TEV)

ACTION STEP:

A setting or person that needs Caringly Constructive words from me: _____

HOMEWORK

Small Group assignment:

Watch Session 3, "Love Speaks the Truth" by Rick Warren and follow along in the study guide.

Personal Reading schedule:

The Relationship Principles of Jesus
Read Days 15-21 this week.

This Week's Memory Verse:

Love rejoices with the truth. 1 Corinthians 13:6 (NIV)