

ECCLESIASTES

Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires

Ecclesiastes 9:17 & 10:12-14

*"The quiet words of the wise are more to be heeded
than the shouts of a ruler of fools."*

Ecclesiastes 9:17

*"Words from the mouth of the wise are gracious, but fools
are consumed by their own lips. At the beginning their
words are folly; at the end they are wicked madness –
and fools multiply words."*

Ecclesiastes 10:12-14

Power of the Tongue

*"Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it
makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set
on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world
of evil among the parts of the body... It is a restless evil,
full of deadly poison."*

James 3:5-8

Do the words you speak do more to build up others or tear them down?

Choose Your Words Carefully

*"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your
mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up
according to their needs, that it may benefit those
who listen."*

Ephesians 4:29

*"A good man brings good things out of the good stored
up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of
the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks
what the heart is full of."*

Luke 6:45

Reflection:

1. Which of these scripture verses most resonated with you this week? Take 5 minutes to commit it to memory.
2. Think about a time when someone said something really nice or gracious to you. How did it make you feel?
3. Think about a time when someone said something really harsh to you. How did it make you feel?
4. How will you store up good in your heart this week so that good also comes off your lips?
5. Where is there evil in your heart? Confess this to God and someone else you trust, inviting God to make you new.