

4 April 2023

Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks!

Ephesians 5:16-19, Colossians 3:16-17

Over the past few weeks, we have considered many "one another's" from the scriptures; things that we ought to be glad to do for one another.

We should "love one another", "serve one another", "edify (or build up) one another", "provoke (or stir up) one another" to love and to good works, "comfort one another" with the promise of our Lord's return, we should bear one another's burdens, and then, we should wash each other's feet...be helpers of each other's sanctification. Christian Participants!

I love these (2) passages: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, 1 Samuel 23:13-16

YOU KNOW THIS: The Lord Jesus, when He sent His apostles out, He did not send them out alone, but by twos, so that they could encourage one another and be helpers of one of another and to watch out for each other!

WE NEED each other brethren! We need each other's fellowship and prayers, we need each other watching out for one another, we need each other's help, and strengthening... and let me just say RIGHT HERE, that I appreciate that many of you DO glorify God by being there for your brothers and sisters in Christ. I love that you visit and fellowship one with another before and after the services...

All of these "one another's" are precisely HOW the body edifies itself in love.

This evening, I want to encourage you to help one another with your words and with the Word.

Now, it's very important to understand, OUR WORDS and our CONVERSATION comes from what's in our hearts. If we're not walking with God in obedience to the Word and in meditation and prayer, it's going to be difficult to be heartily engaged for Christ in what we do, AND IN WHAT WE SAY! But when we are walking with the Lord, the good Words and praises of our God should come forth from our lips in a spiritually natural way.

Proverbs 25:11: "A Word fitly spoken (seasonable and timely) is like apples of gold in pictures of silver."
John 7:38: "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water."

We should be so intimately close to our Lord that His Word and truths come forth naturally in our conversation. But HAS THIS EVER HAPPENED TO YOU, you were with among fellow believers, and you felt like you HAD to say something for the Lord, but it was difficult, and you struggled because you were not having a good day, or, you simply had not been walking with Christ in His Word...and so when you said (praise the Lord, or the Lord is good), it was forced...not spoken from the heart? Matthew 15:8: "This

people draw nigh unto me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me."

Beloved, when it comes to our words and conversation, even our attitudes, the spiritual health of our hearts matter.

If we would speak the Word genuinely from our hearts, we must be in a constant state of being renewed in the spirit of our minds... We must be taking in more and more of Christ in His Word, in meditation, and prayer!

Proverbs 4:23-27, Luke 6:45, Ephesians 3:14-19

That brings me back to the (2) passages that I opened with...

Ephesians 5:18-19, Colossians 3:16-17

Here is where I want to encourage you to be like Jonathan when David was discouraged, Jonathan "strengthened his hand in God."

You might just be sharing a passage from the Word, a verse out of the Bible that God blessed you with in your daily reading..... You might not think you're doing much, BUT brethren, YOU ARE! That's how God will use you to edify and encourage one another in their faith.

Remember, your heart is your treasury...out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks...

Psalm 119:171-172, Proverbs 8:6-8 (Wisdom personified), 10:11, 13-14, 21, 15:1-2, 4, 7, 16:23, Ephesians 4:29, Colossians 4:6

As for speaking to the lost, you know and understand the Words of eternal life! You KNOW the Lord Jesus Christ!

Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the Kingdom of heaven, but unto them it is not given!

You should be able to guide the lost toward the "strait gate" that lead to Christ and eternal life!