

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Worksheet: Biblical principles to guide the Christian's use of words

Think carefully about the words you speak. Create a list of Biblical Principles to guide you in this area.

### Principles

- 1) Be \_\_\_\_\_ (Exodus 20:16, 23:1, Proverbs 6:16-19, Colossians 3:9, Titus 1:2)
  
- 2) Do not \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ (Titus 2:3, Leviticus 19:16, 1 Peter 2:1, 2 Corinthians 12:20)  
Is it slander? Questions to consider: 1) Is it true? 2) Is it helpful? 3) Is it kind?
  
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ my words always, do not let a careless word \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. This requires self-control which is a fruit of the Spirit. (Psalm 141:3, Proverbs 12:18, James 1:26; Galatians 5:23)
  
- 4) Words are powerful; They can be used to inflict \_\_\_\_\_ and crush a person, but they can also be used to heal and \_\_\_\_\_ (Proverbs 12:18, Proverbs 15:4, Proverbs 18:20)
  - a. 'The axe forgets, the tree remembers' – African Proverb
  
- 5) It takes wisdom to be able to say the \_\_\_\_\_ word at the \_\_\_\_\_ time in the \_\_\_\_\_ way with the \_\_\_\_\_ heart (Ephesians 4:29, Proverbs 25:11)
  
- 6) Even when saying words that may not be received well, they are to be said \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ (Colossians 4:6)
  
- 7) When preaching or teaching God's word be like a light bulb, need to provide both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ as desiring movement in the proper direction (James 3:1-12, 2 Timothy 1:6-7).

- 8) Be wise and careful with the \_\_\_\_\_ you make. Do not overextend on a commitment and fall short (Matthew 5:37, James 5:12)
- 9) Avoid senseless \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Timothy 2:23)
- 10) Do not be \_\_\_\_\_. Disagreements are not to become \_\_\_\_\_, the unity of the Spirit shall prevail. (2 Timothy 2:24-25)
- 11) Take \_\_\_\_\_ for every word spoken (Matthew 12:36). Words have consequences... be careful (Lev 19:16)
- 12) Be in \_\_\_\_\_ about control of your tongue which flows from the desires of your heart (Psalm 19:14)

Additional notes from Class discussion

- 1) Put a stop to false reports (being neutral, unresponsive... is acceptance)
- 2) Speak the unexaggerated truth... don't misrepresent it
- 3) When you have a hard thing to say to someone don't write it... speak it (can clarify in writing later if needed)
- 4) The incredible power of words to inspire and encourage... catch others in doing things well
- 5) Be able to handle criticism and constructive criticism graciously
- 6) Remember, words are equally powerful at home

Additional Notes from discussion