

**Building With Wisdom Part 7
A Matter of Life and Death**

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

Words: A Matter of Life and Death

1. Words can accomplish great good.
2. Words can cause great damage.
3. God can guide our words for the greatest good.

1. Words can accomplish great good.
2. Words can cause great damage.

Proverbs 11:12-13 (NLT)
¹² It is foolish to belittle a neighbor; a person with good sense remains silent.
¹³ A gossip goes around revealing secrets, but those who are trustworthy can keep a confidence.

- 1. Words can accomplish great good.
- 2. Words can cause great damage.

Proverbs 12:17-19 (NIV)

¹⁷ A truthful witness gives honest testimony, but a false witness tells lies. ¹⁸ Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing. ¹⁹ Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue lasts only a moment.

- 1. Words can accomplish great good.
- 2. Words can cause great damage.

Proverbs 15:1-2 (NIV)

¹ A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. ² The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouth of the fool gushes folly.

- 1. Words can accomplish great good.
- 2. Words can cause great damage.

Proverbs 10:19-21 (NIV)

¹⁹ When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise. ²⁰ The tongue of the righteous is choice silver, but the heart of the wicked is of little value. ²¹ The lips of the righteous nourish many, but fools die for lack of judgment.

- 1. Words can accomplish great good.
- 2. Words can cause great damage.

Proverbs 15:4 (NIV)

⁴ The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life, but a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.

- 1. Words can accomplish great good.
- 2. Words can cause great damage.

Proverbs 16:23-24, 27-28 (NIV)

²³ A wise man's heart guides his mouth, and his lips promote instruction.

²⁴ Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.

²⁷ A scoundrel plots evil, and his speech is like a scorching fire. ²⁸ A perverse man stirs up dissension, and a gossip separates close friends.

- 3. God can guide our Words for the greatest good.

Psalms 141:3 (NIV)

³ Set a guard over my mouth, O LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips.

Psalms 19:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

3. God can guide our words for the greatest good.

Proverbs 25:11-13 (MSG)

¹¹ The right word at the right time is like a custom-made piece of jewelry, ¹² And a wise friend's timely reprimand is like a gold ring slipped on your finger.

¹³ Reliable friends who do what they say are like cool drinks in sweltering heat—refreshing!

3. God can guide our words for the greatest good.

Proverbs 25:14-15 (MSG)

¹⁴ Like billowing clouds that bring no rain is the person who talks big but never produces. ¹⁵ Patient persistence pierces through indifference; gentle speech breaks down rigid defenses.
