



LIFE GIVING SPEECH PATTERNS

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Life or Death

21 The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Proverbs 18:21



Direction

3 When we put bits into the mouths of horses . . . steered by a very small rudder . . . Likewise, the tongue a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts.

James 3:3-6



Definition

14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name.

Ephesians 3:14-15



3 things to practice



1. Be an eavesdropper and choose life

Eavesdrop - secretly listen to a conversation.

21-22 Don't eavesdrop on the conversation of others. What if the gossip's about you and you'd rather not hear it? You've done that a few times, haven't you—said things behind someone's back you wouldn't say to his face?

Ecclesiastes 7:20-22

1. Be an eavesdropper and choose life

Wisdom from the secret place - What is the Father saying?

Announce it

Wisdom from the public square - What grace is evident on their lives?

Affirm it

Wisdom from private conversations - What “gossip” can you gather and share?

Collect it

2. Be a treasure hunter and direct

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

Proverbs 16:23

2. Be a treasure hunter and direct

We call Abraham “father” not because he got God’s attention by living like a saint, but because God made something out of Abraham when he was a nobody. Isn’t that what we’ve always read in Scripture, God saying to Abraham, “I set you up as father of many peoples”? Abraham was first named “father” and then became a father because he dared to trust God to do what only God could do:

2. Be a treasure hunter and direct

raise the dead to life, with a word make something out of nothing. When everything was hopeless, Abraham believed anyway, deciding to live not on the basis of what he saw he couldn’t do but on what God said he would do. And so he was made father of a multitude of peoples. God himself said to him, “You’re going to have a big family, Abraham!”

Romans 4:17-18 (The Message)



3. Be a creative disciplinarian and define

He who listens to a life-giving rebuke will be at home among the wise.

Proverbs 15:21



3. Be a creative disciplinarian and define

But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people.

Ephesians 5:3

3. Be a creative disciplinarian and define

4 In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. 5 And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, “My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, 6 because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.”

3. Be a creative disciplinarian and define

7 Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father?

Hebrews 12:4-7

3. Be a creative disciplinarian and define

9 Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men 10 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Use your imagination

19 I am using an example from everyday life because of your human limitations. Just as you used to offer yourselves as slaves to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness.

Romans 6 :19



Use your imagination

1 I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry.

Psalm 40:1