

“STICKS AND STONES MAY BREAK MY BONES  
BUT WORDS WILL NEVER HURT ME.”

f.001.tiff

“WORDS ARE THE SINGLE MOST POTENT MEANS  
OF INFLUENCE AT YOUR DISPOSAL...  
WORDS HAVE GREAT POWER IN OUR LIVES  
BECAUSE THEY SHAPE HOW WE PERCEIVE REALITY.  
WORDS DO NOT HAVE THE POWER TO CREATE REALITY,  
BUT THEY DO CHANGE HOW WE UNDERSTAND IT,  
AND THEREFORE HOW WE FEEL ABOUT IT  
AND WHAT WE DO ABOUT IT.  
WORDS ARE THE KEY TO BELIEF,  
AND BELIEF UNLOCKS ACTION.” —STAN TOLER

f.002.tiff

<sup>3</sup>WHOEVER GUARDS HIS MOUTH PRESERVES HIS LIFE;  
HE WHO OPENS WIDE HIS LIPS COMES TO RUIN...  
<sup>1</sup>A SOFT ANSWER TURNS AWAY WRATH, BUT A HARSH WORD  
STIRS UP ANGER... <sup>4</sup>A GENTLE TONGUE IS A TREE OF LIFE,  
BUT PERVERSENESS IN IT BREAKS THE SPIRIT...  
<sup>23</sup>TO MAKE AN APT ANSWER IS A JOY TO A MAN,  
AND A WORD IN SEASON, HOW GOOD IT IS!...  
<sup>28</sup>THE HEART OF THE RIGHTEOUS PONDERES HOW TO ANSWER,  
BUT THE MOUTH OF THE WICKED POURS OUT EVIL THINGS...  
<sup>21</sup>DEATH AND LIFE ARE IN THE POWER OF THE TONGUE,  
AND THOSE WHO LOVE IT WILL EAT ITS FRUITS.  
—PROVERBS 13:3; 15:1, 4, 23, 28; 18:21

f.003.tiff

POSITIVE EXPRESSIONS	NEGATIVE RESPONSES
CONSTRUCTIVE	CRITICAL
COMPLIMENTARY	COMPLAINING
CARING	CARELESS
ENCOURAGING	DISCOURAGING
TRUTHFUL	DECEITFUL
APOLOGY	BLAME
RECONCILING	RAGE

f.004.tiff

MOSES	"SPOKE RASHLY WITH HIS LIPS"	PSALM 106:32-33
ISAIAH	"WOE IS ME... I AM A MAN OF UNCLEAR LIPS"	ISAIAH 6:5
JOB	"I LAY MY HAND ON MY MOUTH"	JOB 40:4
PETER	"I WILL NEVER FALL AWAY"	MATTHEW 26:33

p.005.tiff

WHEN WORDS ARE MANY, TRANSGRESSION IS NOT LACKING,  
BUT WHOEVER RESTRAINS HIS LIPS IS PRUDENT.  
—PROVERBS 10:19

p.006.tiff

<sup>1</sup>NOT MANY OF YOU SHOULD BECOME TEACHERS, MY BROTHERS,  
FOR YOU KNOW THAT WE WHO TEACH WILL BE JUDGED WITH  
GREATER STRICTNESS. <sup>2</sup>FOR WE ALL STUMBLE IN MANY WAYS.  
AND IF ANYONE DOES NOT STUMBLE IN WHAT HE SAYS, HE IS A  
PERFECT MAN, ABLE ALSO TO BRIDLE HIS WHOLE BODY. <sup>3</sup>IF WE PUT BITS  
INTO THE MOUTHS OF HORSES SO THAT THEY OBEY US, WE GUIDE THEIR  
WHOLE BODIES AS WELL. <sup>4</sup>LOOK AT THE SHIPS ALSO: THOUGH THEY ARE  
SO LARGE AND ARE DRIVEN BY STRONG WINDS, THEY ARE GUIDED  
BY A VERY SMALL RUDDER WHEREVER THE WILL OF THE PILOT DIRECTS.  
<sup>5</sup>SO ALSO THE TONGUE IS A SMALL MEMBER, YET IT BOASTS OF  
GREAT THINGS. HOW GREAT A FOREST IS SET ABLAZE BY SUCH A SMALL  
FIRE! <sup>6</sup>AND THE TONGUE IS A FIRE, A WORLD OF UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.

p.007.tiff

THE TONGUE IS SET AMONG OUR MEMBERS, STAINING THE WHOLE BODY,  
SETTING ON FIRE THE ENTIRE COURSE OF LIFE, AND SET ON FIRE  
BY HELL. <sup>7</sup>FOR EVERY KIND OF BEAST AND BIRD, OF REPTILE AND  
SEA CREATURE, CAN BE TAMED AND HAS BEEN TAMED BY MANKIND,  
<sup>8</sup>BUT NO HUMAN BEING CAN TAME THE TONGUE. IT IS A  
RESTLESS EVIL, FULL OF DEADLY POISON. <sup>9</sup>WITH IT WE BLESS OUR  
LORD AND FATHER, AND WITH IT WE CURSE PEOPLE WHO ARE MADE  
IN THE LIKENESS OF GOD. <sup>10</sup>FROM THE SAME MOUTH COME BLESSING  
AND CURSING. MY BROTHERS, THESE THINGS OUGHT NOT TO BE SO.  
<sup>11</sup>DOES A SPRING POUR FORTH FROM THE SAME OPENING  
BOTH FRESH AND SALT WATER? —JAMES 3:1-11

p.008.tiff





## I. EXAMINE THE INFLUENCE OF WORDS

JAMES 3:1-5

f.009.tiff

## I. EXAMINE THE INFLUENCE OF WORDS

- THE HORSE AND BRIDLE

f.010.tiff

## I. EXAMINE THE INFLUENCE OF WORDS

- THE SHIP AND RUDDER

f.011.tiff

## I. EXAMINE THE INFLUENCE OF WORDS

- THE SPARK AND FIRE

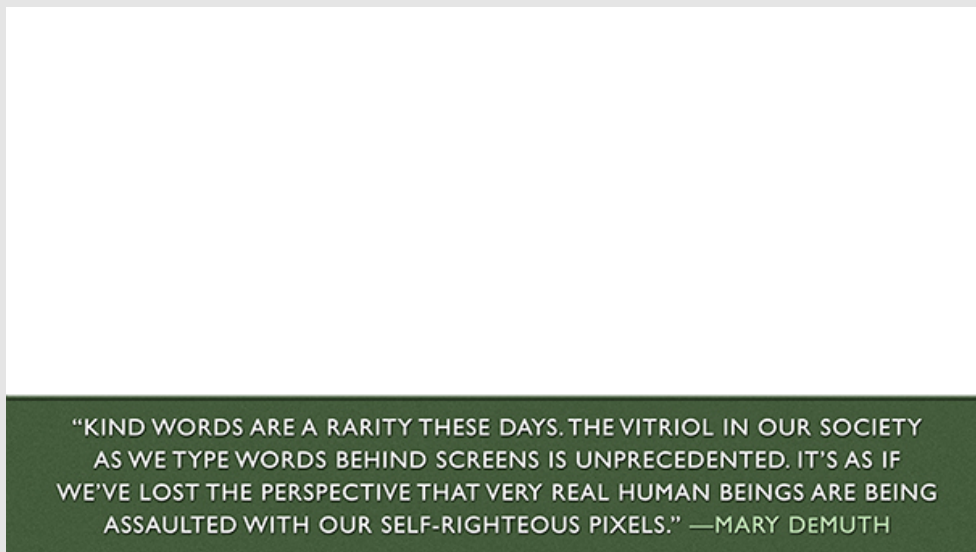
f.012.tiff



f.013.tiff



f.014.tiff



f.015.tiff



f.016.tiff

<sup>27</sup>A WORTHLESS MAN PLOTS EVIL, AND HIS SPEECH IS LIKE  
A SCORCHING FIRE. <sup>28</sup>A DISHONEST MAN SPREADS STRIFE,  
AND A WHISPERER SEPARATES CLOSE FRIENDS. —PROVERBS 16:27-28

f.017.tiff

WHOEVER GOES ABOUT SLANDERING REVEALS SECRETS,  
BUT HE WHO IS TRUSTWORTHY IN SPIRIT  
KEEPS A THING COVERED. —PROVERBS 11:13

f.018.tiff

"I AM MORE DEADLY THAN THE SCREAMING SHELL  
OF THE HOWITZER. I WIN WITHOUT KILLING. I TEAR DOWN  
HOMES, BREAK HEARTS AND WRECK LIVES. I TRAVEL  
ON THE WINGS OF THE WIND. NO INNOCENCE IS  
STRONG ENOUGH TO INTIMIDATE ME, NO PURITY IS  
PURE ENOUGH TO DAUNT ME. I HAVE NO REGARD FOR TRUTH,  
NO RESPECT FOR JUSTICE, NO MERCY FOR THE DEFENSELESS.  
MY VICTIMS ARE AS NUMEROUS AS THE SANDS OF THE SEA,  
AND OFTEN AS INNOCENT. I NEVER FORGET AND  
SELDOM FORGIVE. MY NAME IS GOSSIP."  
—MORGAN BLAKE

f.019.tiff

## 2. EXPOSE THE INJURY OF WORDS

### • FLATTERY

A FLATTERING MOUTH WORKS RUIN. —PROVERBS 26:28b

f.020.tiff

2. EXPOSE THE INJURY OF WORDS

• BOASTING

YOU BOAST IN YOUR ARROGANCE. ALL SUCH BOASTING IS EVIL. —JAMES 4:16

f.021.tiff

2. EXPOSE THE INJURY OF WORDS

• CRITICISM

f.022.tiff

THERE IS ONE WHOSE RASH WORDS ARE LIKE SWORD THRUSTS,  
BUT THE TONGUE OF THE WISE BRINGS HEALING.

—PROVERBS 12:18

f.023.tiff

"WITH THE TONGUE WE PROPOSE AND WITH THE SAME TONGUE  
WE DESTROY." —JANE MENSAH

"A SHARP TONGUE IS THE ONLY TOOL THAT GROWS KEENER  
WITH CONSTANT USE." —WASHINGTON IRVING

f.024.tiff

2. EXPOSE THE INJURY OF WORDS

• DECEPTION

f.025.tiff

PUT AWAY FROM YOU CROOKED SPEECH,  
AND PUT DEVIOUS TALK FAR FROM YOU.

—PROVERBS 4:24

f.026.tiff

2. EXPOSE THE INJURY OF WORDS

• PROFANITY

f.027.tiff

WITH IT WE BLESS OUR LORD AND FATHER, AND WITH IT  
WE CURSE PEOPLE WHO ARE MADE IN THE LIKENESS OF GOD.

—JAMES 3:9

f.028.tiff





### 3. EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF YOUR WORDS

JAMES 3:10-12

f.029.tiff

<sup>10</sup>FROM THE SAME MOUTH COME BLESSING AND CURSING.  
MY BROTHERS, THESE THINGS OUGHT NOT TO BE SO. <sup>11</sup>DOES A SPRING  
POUR FORTH FROM THE SAME OPENING BOTH FRESH AND SALT WATER?  
<sup>12</sup>CAN A FIG TREE, MY BROTHERS, BEAR OLIVES, OR A GRAPEVINE PRODUCE FIGS?  
NEITHER CAN A SALT POND YIELD FRESH WATER. —JAMES 3:10-12

f.030.tiff

“WORDS ARE A FORM OF ACTION, CAPABLE OF INFLUENCING CHANGE.”

—INGRID BENGIS

f.031.tiff

### 3. EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF YOUR WORDS

- RECOGNIZE THE ROOT PROBLEM

f.032.tiff



3. EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF YOUR WORDS

- REQUEST GOD'S HELP

f.033.tiff

SET A GUARD, O LORD, OVER MY MOUTH;  
KEEP WATCH OVER THE DOOR OF MY LIPS! —PSALM 141:3

LET THE WORDS OF MY MOUTH AND THE MEDITATION OF MY HEART BE  
ACCEPTABLE IN YOUR SIGHT, O LORD, MY ROCK AND MY REDEEMER. —PS. 19:14

f.034.tiff

3. EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF YOUR WORDS

- REFLECT ON WHAT YOU SAY

PROVERBS 15:28

f.035.tiff

3. EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF YOUR WORDS

- REMEMBER YOU MUST GIVE AN ACCOUNT TO GOD

f.036.tiff

<sup>34</sup>“HOW CAN YOU SPEAK GOOD, WHEN YOU ARE EVIL?  
FOR OUT OF THE ABUNDANCE OF THE HEART THE MOUTH SPEAKS.

<sup>35</sup>THE GOOD PERSON OUT OF HIS GOOD TREASURE  
BRINGS FORTH GOOD, AND THE EVIL PERSON OUT OF HIS  
EVIL TREASURE BRINGS FORTH EVIL. <sup>36</sup>I TELL YOU,  
ON THE DAY OF JUDGMENT PEOPLE WILL GIVE ACCOUNT  
FOR EVERY CARELESS WORD THEY SPEAK,

<sup>37</sup>FOR BY YOUR WORDS YOU WILL BE JUSTIFIED,  
AND BY YOUR WORDS YOU WILL BE CONDEMNED.”

—MATTHEW 12:34b-37

✠.037.tiff