

Study Through the Bible

A House of Wisdom – Study 3

PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE

The Power of the Tongue

This small body part can mean life or death.

Your success or failure with the tongue will go a long way in determining whether or not you will dwell in the valley of peace. Communication has great power and consequences. While many other proverbs deal with the specific life-giving or deadly powers of the tongue—such as truthfulness and lying, or soft and angry words—the verses we will examine in this study are more sweeping in their declaration. Our use of the tongue, whether to hurt or to heal, has earthly and eternal consequences.

Scripture:

Proverbs 18:20–21

Based on:

"A House of Wisdom," Series Builder by Jeffrey Arthurs, PREACHING TODAY SERMONS



PART 1

Identify the Current Issue

All of us have been both damaged and edified by words. All of us have damaged and edified others. To experience a life of peace, we must guard our tongues. In our continuing quest to build a house of wisdom, mastering our tongues allows us to lay an entire row of bricks.

PART 2

Discover the Eternal Principles

Teaching point one: Words lead to action.

Teaching point two: Consequences follow our use of words.

Teaching point three: To change our speech patterns, we must start with the heart.

[Q] Which statement best describes you:

- 1) My words reflect my heart.
- 2) My words don't reflect my heart. I don't mean the things I say.
- 3) My words don't reflect my heart, because I rarely express myself.
- 4) My words don't reflect my heart, because I'm rarely honest about how I really feel.

PART 3

Apply Your Findings

Pray together the words of the following hymn, based on a psalm:

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence, O Lord,
And take not thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation,
And renew a right spirit within me.

Try praying this throughout the week when you are tempted to say something you know is wrong.

—Study written by Jeffrey Arthurs, with JoHannah Reardon

