

### III. LET'S WISE UP USING **GOOD** AND **GODLY** WORDS:

Have you ever said something you wish you could catch and put back into your mouth? The words of a wise person are like a “gushing **brook**” that **refreshes** and blesses those around! (v.4)

Let's take Jesus' words seriously: “On the day of **judgment** people will give an account for every **careless** word they speak for by your words you will be justified or **condemned!**” (Mt. 12:36-37) Yes, our tongue has in its **power** - death or life! So, “**Watch Your Mouth**” and to do so we must look **regularly** and **carefully** into the mirror of God's **Word** (James 1:21-23, Study 3:1-12)

**Time for Your Examination!** *Do I talk too much? Am I known as a gossip? Take up the offence of others? Give my opinion without hearing people out? Speak only when I'm spoken to?*

**So, what do wise words look like?.. – Jesus!** - The Living **Word** of God, the **Source** of all Wisdom and the **Fount** of every Blessing!

**Wise Up** by **resolving** to imitate Christ in our **communication**. He came sharing the Good News!

Christ was holy therefore speak nothing **corrupt**, he was gracious so may our words be **kind**, he always edified all who heard Him so let our speech always build up others (Eph. 4:29; Col. 4:6)

*- More have been slain by ill-spoken words than the sword;  
Watch your mouth lest it bite you!*

### MAKE WISDOM YOUR LIFE GOAL!

#### Do you need to wise up about communication?

*“5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.*

*6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting,”* James 1:5-6a

## WISE UP

### Wise Up About Communication

Dr. Chris Gnanakan

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Wise up and live well!!

*“7 Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom.  
And in all your getting, get understanding.*

*8 Exalt her, and she will promote you; She will bring you honor, when you embrace her.”* Proverbs 4:7-8

Wisdom is discerning and doing the will of God.

#### B. This teaching series is based on the book of Proverbs.

- The theme of Proverbs is wisdom.  
It is mentioned dozens of times covering all the basic areas of life.

- The writer of Proverbs is Solomon.  
He is the wisest person to ever live.

- The nature of Proverbs is pithy.  
They are short and concise statements of truth.

#### C. In this series, you will you will learn how to wise up and live well.

Oct 20	Wise Up About Decisions
TODAY	Wise Up About Communication
Nov 3	Wise Up About Sex
Nov 10	Wise Up About Relationships
Nov 17	Wise Up About Money
Nov 24	Wise Up About Work
Dec 1	Wise Up About Conflict
Dec 8	Wise Up About Addictions
Dec 15	Wise Up About Womanhood

#### D. **Text:** Proverbs 18:21 (Pew Bible/Pg.602/Old Testament)

## HOW TO WISE UP ABOUT COMMUNICATION

### Watch Your Mouth!

As a practical book, Proverbs (like James in the NT) offers both wisdom and warnings that relate to real life issues. Communication is vital in any relationship and proper speech or use of words can either make or break relationships. We've heard the saying: "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words cannot harm me." Really?! Proverbs has much to say about that boneless part of our body that wield immense power for good or evil and can create untold problems!

Proverbs 18: 4 compares words to "deep waters" that reveal what is really within a person, from within the well of one's heart the mouth like a bucket draws and brings forth words (Mt. 12:34)! The "fool" (*chasar-lev, baar, pethi*) lacks common sense and is particularly known to use their mouth to scoffs wisdom! He hates discipline and "mouths off" hence is simply... stupid!

*Don't be Stupid...*

### I. LET'S USE LESS WORDS OR BETTER, SAY NOTHING:

A lot of little talk leads to ruin; for when words are many, transgression is not lacking (10:19)

Silence can say much and can even make a fool seem wise! (17:28)

*The wise old owl sat on an oak; the more he saw, the less he spoke;*

*The less he spoke the more he heard, why can't we be like that wise old bird?*

So less words mean more gain in wisdom and can keep us out of trouble (21:23)

### II. LET'S USE THE RIGHT WORDS, AT THE RIGHT TIME:

Improper or wrong words soon invite trouble and call for stripes or a beating (18:6-8)

*If your lips you'll keep from slips five things take note with care,  
Of whom you speak, to whom you speak, when, why and where!*

A "whisperer" brings up matters that should not be said and like "dainty morsels" are easily accepted by other fools and readily swallowed! Gossip and rumors start and spread in this way!

Timing is everything, often we cut in before the other person has finished speaking and give our answer before we've heard the whole sentence or listened carefully to both sides of the story. The tongue of the foolish talker leads down perverse paths that soon destroy them (18:6-8)

Think about other forms of loose talk that hurt other people and ruin your own soul: words that express bitterness, criticism, coarse jokes, slander, backbiting, etc.,