



Just One More

Week 3: Compromise in Speech

What we want students to learn: I don't have to compromise speaking life, because the life of Jesus lives in me.

What we want students to do with what they've learned: Bring "life" into their life and the lives of others with the words they speak.

Large Group Message Focus: No matter what you've said in the past, Jesus wants to use your words now to give life.

Scripture Focus: Proverbs 18:21

The Main Point

Jesus wants to speak life into you, not just over you. Because Jesus lives inside you, He can enable you to speak that same life over yourself and over others. Then, the way we speak the life giving Word over ourselves and over others can be an example to others. Being compassionate and caring towards others with our words will show people what Jesus is really about.

INTRODUCTION

Joke Contest

Spend the first 5 minutes of group having a joke contest. Tell students to simply share their favorite joke and as a group decide which joke won.

Then, talk about how much power our words have. Words can make us laugh, cry, hope, remember, and so much more. Whether we are speaking wisely or without thought to what we are saying, our words have power. But, what effect do we want them to have?

PRAY that your students would have the courage to speak life no matter if they are looking life or death in the face.

LESSON

Rather than reading the story together, you will simply recap the story of Peter to your students.

There was a guy in the new Testament named Peter, who reminds us that not everyone in the Bible had it all together. Peter got to walk side by side with Jesus during his ministry. Right at the end of Jesus' ministry, Peter

denied that he was a follower of Jesus. In fact, he denied him three times to different people. Jesus had predicted and told Peter that this would happen. However, after Jesus rose from the dead and then ascended into heaven, Peter got another chance. On the day of Pentecost, Peter and those in the upper room experienced the Holy Spirit. Then, Peter went out and preached to several thousand people. Then, 3000 people accepted Jesus as their savior. Peter, like us, was a bit inconsistent in his words. While we may not be ultimately denying Jesus, we aren't really praising him all of the time either.

- **If Peter stopped speaking life because of his past words, what would've happened?**
 - o *Peter would have missed the chance to see thousands come to the faith that day. Peter would have let fear get in the way.*
- **What does speaking the Word of God mean to you?**
 - o *When we speak the Word, we aren't just saying good things. Rather, we are speaking God's words. When we speak life, God's Word opens people's eyes to who Jesus really is, showing people His love.*
- **How can speaking the Word change you?**
 - o *When we speak the Word of God, we are reminded of how he feels about us and what he wants to say about our circumstances. This ultimately brings us closer to God.*

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

- **How can words bring life or death?**
 - o *Words of life build people up. Words of death break people down.*
- **How do your actions also speak for you?**
 - o *Often times, our actions speak even louder than our words. The question is, do our words match our actions?*
- **Do your words reflect death or life typically? Why do you think that is?**

LIFE APPLICATION

To close out group for the night, ask the following question.

- **How will you speak "life" throughout the next week?**
 - o *Our words start in our mind. If we aren't putting the right things into our mind, death will always come out.*
 - o *Help student choose at least one practical way they will speak life over the next week.*

TAKE IT OUT

Close small group out with prayer requests. Pray specifically that your small group will be bold in the way they speak life this week.

After prayer, be sure to remind them about MVMT and answer any questions they have.