

Faith Component

EPHESIANS 4:29

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

PROVERBS 15:1

A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

ECCLESIASTES 10:12

Words from a wise man's mouth are gracious, while the lips of a fool consume him.

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

Help students understand that their words have a more significant impact than they might realize.

With the development of the telegraph and Morse code, people's messages could travel farther and faster. As children of God, it is important to recognize that words can either hurt or bless others, including ourselves. God's teachings encourage kindness and blessing others, which we can achieve through our words and communication.

Teach students that practicing kindness, uplifting others, showing grace, being truthful, honest, and respectful in our words, tone, and manner of communication will bring honor to God.

THE POWER OF WORDS

A MINI-LESSON

Objective: To help students understand the importance of their words and how they can positively impact others, in line with biblical principles.

Duration: Approximately 15-20 minutes

Materials Needed:

- a whiteboard or a flip chart
- markers
- a Bible (optional)

Introduction:

Begin by engaging the students with a thought-provoking question: *"Have you ever thought about how your words impact other people?"* Allow a few students to share their thoughts or experiences briefly.

Historical Context:

Explain that historically, people used different means to communicate before the modern era. Mention Samuel Morse and the telegraph as an example. Briefly discuss how this invention revolutionized communication by transmitting messages over long distances.

Connection to Biblical Principles:

Relate the concept of effective communication to biblical teachings. You can refer to the following passages:

Proverbs 15:1: "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

Ephesians 4:29: "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen."

Impact of Words:

Discuss how words can have a lasting impact. Share examples of positive words that can uplift and encourage, as well as negative words that can hurt. Use the whiteboard or flip chart to jot down these examples.

Guiding Principles:

Emphasize the importance of using kind, uplifting, gracious, truthful, honest, and respectful words in our daily interactions. Explain that by doing so, we honor God and positively influence those around us.

Interactive Activity:

Divide the class into pairs or small groups. Provide each group with a list of scenarios where they have to respond with words that reflect the guiding principles discussed. Encourage them to come up with positive and uplifting responses.

Sharing and Reflection:

Have each group share one of their responses with the class. Encourage a brief discussion on how their chosen words can positively impact others in those situations.

Conclusion:

Summarize the key takeaways from the lesson. Remind students that their words matter, and by using them wisely, they can make a positive difference in the lives of others.

Optional:

Conclude the lesson with a brief prayer, asking for guidance in using our words to honor God and uplift those around us.