

INTRODUCTION

- * In our study of the book of Proverbs, we have been considering some Pearls of Wisdom.
- * Two weeks ago, we began to consider our "final" pearl ... those verses dealing with our communication.
- * Words are extremely important. They are the foundations of communication. With them communicate value and worth. With them communicate describe concepts, thoughts, ideas and philosophies that impact societies and history. With them we declare, or record, facts or falsehood. With them we edify or destroy.
- * Two weeks ago, we considered the challenge for us to NOT use our words to cause contention or strife, but rather to seek unity.
- * Last week, we considered the challenge for us to use our words to edify and not destroy.
- * Today, we want to consider those verses which discuss the importance of using our words to communicate truth, as opposed to falsehood.
- * The Greek word for truth is the word "alatheia" which is comprised of two other Greek words: "a" meaning "not" and "lanthano" meaning "to be hid." Truth is that which is "not hidden" ... or by extension, something in which something is not hidden. There are no hidden clauses!
- * We will be breaking our study up using five primary key verses.

INSTRUCTION

I. PROVERBS 8:6-9

- * cf. John 14:6

II. PROVERBS 23:23

III. PROVERBS 12:17-23

- * cf. Proverbs 14:5; 14:25
- * cf. Proverbs 19:5; 19:9; 21:28; 25:14; 25:18

IV. PROVERBS 27:6

- * cf. Proverbs 10:18-19; 26:24-28
- * cf. Ephesians 4:11-16

V. PROVERBS 29:14

- * cf. John 18:36-38

INTROSPECTION

- * IS IT YOUR HABIT TO SPEAK TRUTHFULLY, OR DO YOU TEND TO "SHADE THE TRUTH"?
- * WHAT IS THE "WORTH" OF YOUR WORDS?
- * ARE YOU FOLLOWING THE PATH AND THE PURSUIT OF WISDOM IN HOW YOU COMMUNICATE?
- * IS THERE A NEED TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK ... AND, THEREFORE, THE WAY YOU ACT?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * Read John 4:23-24; John 8:31-44 and John 18:37. What did Jesus declare was the importance of truth?

(H4820-mirmah; m'ramah ... with betrayal)

(H8267-sheqer ... false; lying)

(H3576/H3577-kazab ... false; lying)

(H530/H531 -emunah/emun ... faithful; true)

(H539 -aman ... trustworthy; believable; faithful)

(H571-emeth ... truth; true)

Proverbs 8:6-9 ⁶ Listen, for I (Wisdom) will **speak of excellent** (nagiyd-captain; prince; ruler) **things**, and from the opening of my lips will come **right** (m'yashar - w/ straightness) things; ⁷ for my mouth will **speak truth** (H571-emeth); wickedness is an abomination to my lips. ⁸ All the words of my mouth are with righteousness; nothing crooked or perverse is in them. ⁹ They are all plain to him who understands, and right to those who find knowledge.

Proverbs 23:23 Buy the **truth** (H571-emeth), and do not sell it, also wisdom and instruction and understanding.

Proverbs 12:17-23 ¹⁷ He who speaks **truth** (H530-emunah) declares righteousness (tsedeq), but a **false** (H8267-sheqer) **witness** (H5707-ed), **deceit** (H4820-mirmah). ¹⁸ There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, but the tongue of the wise promotes health. ¹⁹ The **truthful** (H571-emeth) lip shall be established forever, but a **lying** (H8267-sheqer) tongue is but for a moment. ²⁰ **Deceit** (H4820-mirmah) is in the heart of those who devise evil, but counselors of peace have joy. ²¹ No grave trouble will overtake the righteous, but the wicked shall be filled with evil. ²² **Lying** (H8267-sheqer) lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who deal **truthfully** (H530-emunah) are His delight. ²³ A prudent man conceals knowledge, but the heart of fools proclaims foolishness.

Proverbs 14:5 A **faithful** (H529-emun) **witness** (H5707-ed) does not **lie** (H3576-kazab), but a **false** (H8267-sheqer) **witness** (H5707-ed) will utter **lies** (H3577-kazab).

Proverbs 14:25 A **true** (H571-emeth) **witness** (H5707-ed) delivers souls, but a **deceitful** (H4820-mirmah) **witness** (H5707-ed) speaks **lies** (H3577-kazab).

Proverbs 19:5 A **false** (H8267-sheqer) **witness** (H5707-ed) will not go unpunished, and he who speaks **lies** (H3577-kazab) will not escape.

Proverbs 19:9 A **false** (H8267-sheqer) **witness** (H5707-ed) will not go unpunished, and he who speaks **lies** (H3577-kazab) shall perish.

Proverbs 21:28 A **false** (H3577-kazab) **witness** (H5707-ed) shall perish, but the man who hears him will speak endlessly.

Proverbs 25:14 Whoever **falsely** (H8267-sheqer) boasts of giving is like clouds and wind without rain.

Proverbs 25:18 A man who bears **false** (H8267-sheqer) **witness** (H5707-ed) against his neighbor Is like a club, a sword, and a sharp arrow.

Proverbs 27:6 Faithful (H539 -aman) are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful (*lit. athar-abundant*).

Proverbs 10:18-19 ¹⁸ Whoever hides hatred has **lying** (H8267-sheqer) lips, and whoever spreads slander is a fool. ¹⁹ In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise.

Proverbs 26:24-28 ²⁴ He who hates (H8130-sanae), disguises it with his lips, and lays up **deceit** (H4820-mirmah) within himself; ²⁵ When he speaks kindly, do not believe him, **for there are seven abominations in his heart**; ²⁶ though his hatred (H3680-sinah: exceeding hatred) is covered by deceit (H4860-m'nasha; from H5377-nasha: deceit; seduction; beguilement), his wickedness will be revealed before the assembly. ²⁷ Whoever digs a pit will fall into it, and he who rolls a stone will have it roll back on him. ²⁸ A **lying** (H8267-sheqer) tongue hates (H8130-sanae) those who are crushed by it, and a flattering (H2509-khalaq) mouth works ruin.

Ephesians 4:11-16 ¹¹ And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³ **till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God**, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; ¹⁴ that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, ¹⁵ but, **speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ--** ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

Proverbs 29:14 The king who judges the poor with **truth** (H571-emeth), his throne will be established forever.