

The Power Of Words



By Cynthia Bailey-Rug

This book may be freely copied and distributed, but never sold. Please visit <http://www.CynthiaBaileyRug.com> to contact author via her website if you have any questions.

Scripture quotations are taken from the Holy Bible, King James Version, Cambridge, 1769.

Cover image courtesy of: www.clker.com

***Proverbs 18:21 "Death and life are in the power of the tongue:
and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof."***

What a powerful thought, that a small thing such as the tongue possesses the power of life and death! But think about it- God created the earth with words: "Let there be light" brought into existence the sun and moon. Isn't that incredible? No magic wand, no creating them from substances created them, but instead mere words.

That power is also available to human beings, it isn't something God kept for Himself. Our words can build up, encourage, offer comfort and understanding. Or, on a darker note, our words can tear down, discourage, wound and even destroy. Words are vessels of unimaginable power, and they must be used wisely!

Recently, God has been showing me that words can also invite mocking, abuse and pain. For example, by not using wisdom in who you rely on, you may be inviting that person to hurt you. Some people are not compassionate due to having suffered themselves in their lives or because they simply do not understand the depths of your pain, or are just irresponsible and unreliable by nature. Therefore they cannot offer you understanding and assistance in your time of trouble. Proverbs 25:19 says, "Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble is like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint." A bad tooth or lame foot will not kill you, but it sure can hurt! Which is what happens when you rely on those this verse refers to as the "unfaithful."

God also has shown me Proverbs 9:7-8 "He that reproveth a scorner getteth to himself shame: and he that rebuketh a wicked man getteth himself a blot. Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.." I have come across many people who fit this description- people who make excuses for their hurtful actions, who blamed me for "making them do it," or

who simply deny their action was hurtful in the first place, even though I may be in tears while talking to them about it.

Have you been in this painful situation?

I believe the way to stop "inviting abuse" is not to keep quiet, but to pray! Our Heavenly Father knows best- ask Him to help you speak wisely, to have the wisdom to know who you can safely discuss which topics with. James 1:5 says, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." I have seen it happen in my own life- God truly gives wisdom in abundance when asked! I now know that some people are not safe to discuss certain topics with, and that is fine. I would prefer knowing this information than discussing things with them that invite pain any day! Wisdom has given me a sensing of when I need to change subjects, and when it is appropriate to continue on discussing other subjects, and the knowledge of with whom I need to stay with superficial topics, and with whom I can discuss deeper issues. I think this wisdom has enabled my relationships to blossom into the healthiest, best relationships they can possibly be.