

Godly Speech--Key Scriptures

www.wordonfire.org – Excellent short video talks by Fr. Robert Barron

www.sacredspace.ie – A short daily retreat

www.pray-as-you-go.org – The daily readings with a reflection

Positive Speech

Psalm 145: 21 My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord; and let all flesh bless His holy name forever and ever.

Proverbs 10:14 Wise men store up knowledge, but the mouth of a fool invites ruin.

Proverbs 13:3 He who guards his lips guards his life, but he who speaks rashly will come to ruin.

Proverbs 15:1-2 A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouth of the fool gushes folly.

Proverbs 15: 4 The tongue that heals is a tree of life, but a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.

Proverbs 17:27-28 A man of knowledge uses words with restraint, and a man of understanding is even-tempered. Even a fool is thought wise if he keeps silent, & discerning if he holds his tongue.

Proverbs 18: 21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and they who indulge in it shall eat the fruit of it.

Proverbs 21:23 He who guards his mouth and his tongue keeps himself from calamity.

Proverbs 24:26 An honest answer is like a kiss on the lips.

Proverbs 25:11 A word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.

Proverbs 25:15 Through patience a ruler can be persuaded, and a gentle tongue can break a bone.

Colossians 4: 6 Let your speech at all times be gracious.

Titus 3: 2 Slander or abuse or speak evil of no one, to avoid being contentious instead be yielding, gentle, and conciliatory, and to show unqualified courtesy toward everybody.

Wielding Weapons of Death: Sarcasm, Gossip, Slander, Negative Humor, Criticism

Matthew 12: 36 But I tell you, on the day of judgment men will have to give account for every idle word they speak.

Psalm 140:3 They make their tongues as sharp as a serpent's; the poison of vipers is on their lips.

Psalm 15 Lord, who may dwell in your sanctuary? Who may live on your holy mountain? He whose walk is blameless & who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from his heart & has no slander on his tongue, who does his neighbor no wrong & casts no slur on his fellowman.

Ephesians 4:29 Let no foul or polluting language, nor evil word, nor unwholesome or worthless talk (ever) come out of your mouth; but only such speech as is good and beneficial to the spiritual progress of others, as is fitting to the need and the occasion, that it may be a blessing and give grace God's favor to those who hear it.

Ephesians 5:3-4 But among you there must not be...obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving.

Proverbs 4:24 Put away perversity from your mouth; keep corrupt talk far from your lips.

Proverbs 6:16-19 There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers.

Proverbs 11:9 With his mouth the godless destroys his neighbor, but through knowledge the righteous escape.

Proverbs 11:13 A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy man keeps a secret.

Proverbs 12:18-19 Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing. Truthful lips endure for ever, but a lying tongue lasts only a moment.

Proverbs 18:6-8 A fool's lips bring him strife, and his mouth invites a beating. A fool's mouth is his undoing, and his lips are a snare to his soul. The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to a man's inmost parts.

Proverbs 20:19 A gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid a man who talks too much.

1 Peter 3:10 Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech.

James 1:26 If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless.

James 3:5-6 Likewise the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

James 3: 8-9 But the human tongue can be tamed by no man. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse men who were made in God's likeness!

1 Timothy 4:12 Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.

Colossians 3:8 But now put away and rid yourselves of all these things; anger, rage, bad feelings towards others, curses and slander and foulmouthed abuse and shameful utterances from your lips!