

## THE MAIN POINT

Wise people learn to harness the power of the words they use so that they bring life and healing.

### Resources:

Sometimes our words erode trust, respect and authority. In these moments, there is a place for professional Christ-centred counselling. If you find yourself in the place to need this, please contact, in confidence, Pastor Brynden at 204-832-4119 or send an email to bryndendevenny@oasiscc.ca.

### Suggested Bible reading for this week:

**PROVERBS 17-24** :: With 31 chapters in the book of Proverbs, there is one for each day of the month. Try to strengthen (or establish) your Bible reading habits by investing a few minutes into reading one proverbs each day.

### NOTES + PRAYER REQUESTS:

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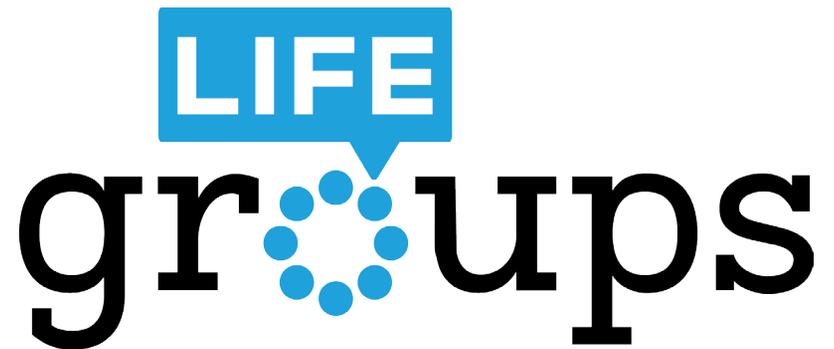
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### Part 3: Wiser in Our Words

Begin by watching the "Info for the Group" portion of the DVD and then here are a few questions to get you going:

\_\_\_ What was your high and low from the past week?

\_\_\_ As we continue in our series Starting Over, here is a question to get your conversation started this week: What is the greatest or most memorable compliment you have ever received?

## PLEASE WATCH THE DVD'S "MAIN SESSION"

### INTRODUCTION

2018 is kicking off and this series gives us an opportunity to start over. Using the book of Proverbs as our guide, we are looking at God's wisdom applied to four different areas of life. This week, discuss the power we hold within the words we speak.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Think of a recent experience where someone used their words to encourage to encourage you. What did they say? Why was it impactful?
2. **Ephesians 4:29** says, "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths..." For some people, we give into sarcasm, off-color jokes, gossip, or name calling, among other ways. When or where are you most likely to use hurtful or reckless words?
3. Discuss the following from **Proverbs 12:18**, "The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing." Thinking of your experiences, when have your words had a lasting and significant negative impact on those around you?
4. When it comes to our words, there are several characteristics: The need for truthful and honest words (**Proverbs 12:17; 15:4**); the need for gentle and kind words (**Proverbs 15:1**); the need for wise words (**Proverb 10:32**). Take time to discuss each one of these characteristics.

5. **Proverbs 16:23** says: 'A wise person's heart guides their mouth' and in **Matthew 12:34**, Jesus said, "For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of." Knowing this, what fills your heart? How do you understand what fills your heart? More importantly, how can you practically begin to make changes to what is in your heart so that you can influence your words?
6. We asked us in this week's teaching to consider this question: "I wanted you to know that \_\_\_\_\_"? How would you fill in that blank? To whom would you share it with?
7. We need to be as responsible with our words as we are with all of our resources. Our words carry great weight. J.M. Barrie said, "Shall we make new rule of life? Always try to be a little kinder than necessary." How can you take responsibility for your 16,000 words this week to make this happen? How can the group help?

### CHANGING YOUR MINDS

"May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O' Lord." (**Proverbs 19:14**) This week, how can you surrender your words every day to your Heavenly Father? How can you ask him to help you use this incredible tool, your mouth, to do what he gave it to you for: to build up, rather than tear down, others?

### BE SURE TO PRAY TOGETHER AS A GROUP...

\_\_ What are some things going on in your life that need prayer?