

FREEDOM GROUPS

Chapter Eight Leader Guide

Death and life are in the power of the tongue. PROVERBS 18:21 NASB

REMINDER:

- Continue to talk about the Freedom Conference April 17th – 18th, encouraging everyone to attend.

OVERVIEW:

The words we speak are a spiritual gauge, showing how much of our soul we have surrendered to God. A life surrendered to God and filled with the Holy Spirit will produce speech full of grace, mercy, love, and power. As Christians, our words and actions should reflect our love for God.

Our words can either tear others down or build them up. God desires for us to speak words of life that build up, bring healing, and offer encouragement. To be able to speak words of life, we need to guard our hearts. We must control what fills our ears and saturates our souls. We also need to gauge our tongues. If we gauge our tongues, we will know when to stop talking. Speaking words of life also requires garnishing our speech. At times, we need to say things that are difficult or may appear negative, but we can still speak in a way that will bless and encourage the other person.

If you have been on the receiving end of destructive words, you can truly be healed and set free from the effects of those words. Pray through these steps:

1. **Confess:** Acknowledge that you have believed something that is not true and have agreed with the lies of the enemy.
2. **Repent:** Stop your agreement with the enemy in its tracks and set your mind on a new course of thinking. If anyone has hurt you by reinforcing these lies in your life, forgive them and release them to the Lord.

3. **Cast off:** Refuse to allow the enemy to use destructive words or events against us.

4. **Bless:** Speak life over yourself by declaring an accurate view of how God sees you.

DISCUSSION GUIDE:

- Application from Week 7: How has your relationship with the Lord and your perspective changed as you prayed for the people you needed to forgive this past week?
- What does your day-to-day conversation say about your spiritual condition? Do your words reflect that God lives inside of you?
- Are you intentional to use your words to promote the Kingdom of God and minister to others?
- What steps are you taking to be more careful with your words?
- Read through the Declarations/Daily Affirmations together.

APPLICATION:

We want to use the truths from God's Word to replace negative words that may have been spoken over us, by ourselves or others. This week, look for an encouraging Scripture verse to replace those negative words.

PRAYER FOCUS:

- Pray that participants understand the power of their words.
- Pray that God would help each participant release the hurt from careless words that have been spoken over them.