

It's a job to be Job—Kids' Lesson #10
Job 4-7, Psalm 64:3, Psalm 19:14

HOOK: Have you ever said something that you wish you hadn't? Ever hurt someone's feelings with your words? Maybe you yelled at your brother or sister or were rude to your mom or lied to a friend. Once words come out of your mouth, you should apologize if you say something that isn't nice or true, but the words don't disappear, do they? They still hurt.

BOOK: Earlier we learned that Job was a good man; he was blameless and upright. He spoke the truth. He also loved God and served Him. God loved Job, too, but the Lord allowed Satan, for a time, to make Job's life quite miserable. (Remember, we don't always understand why God allows certain things, but we can trust that our Heavenly Father is wise and good even when life becomes very difficult.)

While Job was sad, sore and feeling absolutely miserable, his friend Eliphaz had a little talk with him. Instead of using his words to help Job feel better, however, Eliphaz made things worse. Although he reminded Job of God's greatness, he also accused Job of wrongdoing, which wasn't true. Eliphaz assumed that Job was going through this terrible time because he had done something bad and God was punishing him for it. But that wasn't the truth! Instead of encouraging him, Eliphaz looked down on Job unfairly, making Job feel even more miserable and alone.

God wants us to be careful with our words. King David knew this so he prayed this prayer: **"Lord, may these words of my mouth please you. And may these thoughts of my heart please you also. You are my Rock and my Redeemer."** Psalm 19:14 (NIRV) David also knew that words begin as thoughts. God wants us to be careful with what we think about, too.

LOOK: Words can hurt, can't they? The Bible tells us this in Psalm 64:3: "They made their tongues like sharp swords. They aim their mean words like deadly arrows." Wow! Words that are hurtful, careless and rude hurt just as much as if someone hit us or pushed us down...or shot arrows at us! Yikes! But, when we use our words to speak the truth, encourage others and be kind, it helps others and pleases God.

TOOK: What are some words and phrases that you like to hear from people? What words encourage you? *(Give the kids a few minutes to name some words of encouragement. For the older kids, make a list on the board. If necessary, you begin by naming a word/phrase of encouragement.)* Today, while you are with your friends or family, really think about the words that come out of your mouth. Use some of the words we talked about today to encourage people and please God.

Prayer: “Lord, like King David we pray that the words of our mouths and the thoughts of our hearts please you. Amen.”

T.L.C.

(The Learning Continues—Job Lesson #10)



What We Learned: While Job was feeling miserable, his friend Eliphaz had a little talk with him. Instead of using his words to help Job feel better, however, Eliphaz made things worse. Although he reminded Job of God’s greatness, he also unfairly accused Job of wrongdoing. Eliphaz assumed that God was punishing Job, but that wasn’t the truth!

Words can hurt. Psalm 64:3 says: “They made their tongues like sharp swords. They aim their mean words like deadly arrows.” Wow! Words that are hurtful, careless or rude can be as painful as a sword or arrows shot at us! But, when we use our words to speak the truth, encourage others and be kind, it helps others and pleases God.



Memory Verse: “Lord, may these words of my mouth please you. And may these thoughts of my heart please you also. You are my Rock and my Redeemer.”
Psalm 19:14 (NIRV)



Parent/Child Activity: Together name some words and phrases that you like to hear. What words/phrases encourage you? Make a list and post it. Today, while you are with your friends or family, really think about the words that come out of your mouth. Use some of the words on your list to encourage one another and please God.



Daily Prayer: “Lord, like King David we pray that the words of our mouths and the thoughts of our hearts please you. Help us use our words to speak and encourage others. Amen.”