

Declaration

Part Five - Disciplined Declarations

- We must recognize the power of our declarations and act responsibly.

Proverbs 18:21

The tongue can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequences.

Jeremiah 1:9-10

Then the LORD stretched out his hand and touched my mouth. The LORD said to me, “Now I have put my words in your mouth.

10 Today I have put you in charge of nations and kingdoms. You will uproot and tear down. You will destroy and overthrow. You will build and plant.”

2 Corinthians 10:4-5

We use God’s mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments.

5 We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God.

Seven Kinds of Undisciplined Declarations

1. Profanity

Psalm 10:4, 7

In his pride the wicked does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God. 7 His mouth is full of curses and lies and threats; trouble and evil are under his tongue.

James 3:9-10

With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God’s likeness.

10 Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be.

2. Lewdness

Ephesians 5:3-4

Don’t let sexual sin, perversion of any kind, or greed even be mentioned among you. This is not appropriate behavior for God’s holy people.

4 It’s not right that dirty stories, foolish talk, or obscene jokes should be mentioned among you either. Instead, give thanks [to God].

3. Gossip

Proverbs 26:20

Without wood a fire goes out; without gossip a quarrel dies down.

4. Criticism

Jude 4

For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless men...

14 “See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones 15 to judge everyone, and to convict all the ungodly of all the ungodly acts they have done in the ungodly way, and of all the harsh words ungodly sinners have spoken against him.”

16 These men are grumblers and faultfinders; they follow their own evil desires...

5. Complaining

Philippians 2:14

Do everything without complaining or arguing, 15 so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe 16 as you hold out the word of life - in order that I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor for nothing.

6. Boasting

Proverbs 27:1-2

Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth.

2 Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; someone else, and not your own lips.

7. Lying

Proverbs 12:22

The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in men who are truthful.

Seven Kinds of Helpful Declarations

1. Exhortation

Hebrews 3:13

But exhort one another each day, as long as it is called “Today,” that none of you may become hardened by sin’s deception.

2. Encouragement

1 Thessalonians 5:11

So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.

3. Teaching

Matthew 28:19-20

"So wherever you go, make disciples of all nations: Baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

20 Teach them to do everything I have commanded you.

4. Witnessing

Mark 16:15-16

Then Jesus said to them, "So wherever you go in the world, tell everyone the Good News. 16 Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

5. Correction

Titus 2:15

You must teach these things and encourage the believers to do them. You have the authority to correct them when necessary, so don't let anyone disregard what you say.

6. Honor

Romans 12:10

Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.

7. Counsel

Proverbs 11:14

When there is no guidance a nation falls, but there is success in the abundance of counselors.

- **Discipling our declarations might be the most significant measure we can take.**

James 3:2

Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way.