



MESSAGE REVIEW

Jesus says a lot about the subject of words, specifically the words that come out of our mouths. Using the analogy of a tree and its fruit, Jesus tells us the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. Our words reveal what we've allowed to take root and grow inside our hearts. It's not about watching our mouths. It's about guarding our hearts and allowing God to transform us from the inside out.

WARM UP QUESTION

If you were to get a tattoo (or another tattoo), what would it say?

1 **Read Luke 6:43-45.** Summarize in your own words how Jesus uses the simple analogy of a tree to explain a truth about human beings. What makes a heart good or evil? Does this mean all Christ followers bear good fruit? Can they bear bad fruit?

2 If your words are an accurate indicator of what's in your heart, what does the tone and content of your speech, both spoken and written/typed, say about your heart?

3 **Read James 1:26-27 and 3:8-10.** What do both of these passages teach us about our tongues? How might you be allowing the world to corrupt you? What good seeds and bad seeds are you planting or allowing to be planted in your heart?

4 **Read Proverbs 4:23.** What does it mean that our hearts determine the course of our life? What can we do practically to guard it (read verses 20-22 for some ideas)?

5 How does this issue go beyond just watching your mouth? How might you also need to unleash your tongue to say the right thing, the loving thing, or the truthful thing?

RESPOND

What have you learned about God from His Word? How is He asking you to apply it to your life? When will you apply it?

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