

# Giving God Control Of Your Words



Discovering God's Word  
Bible Study Series

# Giving God Control Of Your Words

Learn why you should give God control over your words and what it means to do so

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Discovering God's Word Bible Study Series

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**About the author:** My name is Eric Krieg. I am a disciple of Jesus, a Bible student, a truth seeker, and an evangelist. My interest is in using the Bible as my only guide in my faith. My desire is to help others understand the message of the Bible and pursue true, New Testament Christianity.

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**My plea:** It is my hope and prayer that you are searching for the truth that is contained in God's word, the Bible. My desire is to help you understand and obey these truths God has revealed in the pages of His word. It is to that end that I write this material. Please observe all of the Scripture references and evaluate whether the conclusions I have drawn are in harmony with God's word. If they are, I ask that you make honest application of those truths to your life and obey God's instructions.

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# Giving God Control Of Your Words

## The Importance Of Giving God Control Of Your Words

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Giving God control of your words has both physical and spiritual implications for you. Therefore, before you give your words to God, you will want to understand why giving up control over your own words is important. Let's consider four reasons giving full control of your words to God is so important.

### God hears everything you say

God's nature is such that He sees everything there is to see about your life – and hears everything there is to hear about your life. This includes the words that you speak. So, whenever you say anything, you must recognize that God hears you!

Whenever David was speaking about the fact that God knows everything there is to know about us and what we do, he said, "For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O Lord, You know it altogether" (Psalm 139:4). So, even before you say something, God knows it! Certainly, then, you must conclude that God hears the words when you speak them!

But, why does it matter that God hears everything that you have to say? Ultimately, you need to recognize that you will be judged for every word that you have said. Matthew 12:36-37 say, "But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned." Therefore, on the Day when God will judge the world by Jesus Christ, every word that you have said will be subject to judgment – whether it was good or evil (2 Corinthians 5:10).

Then, I want you to notice the complete nature of the words you will be judged for having said. Jesus said that you will give account "for every idle word." An "idle" word is a word that is lazy or unemployed. Thus, it is a word that is useless, thoughtless, and accomplishes no good. So, you will not *just* give an account of the words that you say at times you deem to be important. Rather, you will even give an account of the words that you speak whenever you are engaged in casual conversation, the words that you speak in passing, and the quick

You must give full control of your life over to God. Proverbs 3:5-6 says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths."

Part of giving God full control of your life is giving Him complete control of the words that you speak. You use your words to convey thoughts and ideas to the people who are around you every day of your life. But, how often do you really think about the power of the words that you are using? How often do you consider whether the words you are using work to actually accomplish the purposes of God and glorify Him or whether they work contrary to His purposes and glory?

You must give your words to God. Not every word that you can say is pleasing to God. According to the Scriptures, there are words that serve "evil" purposes – as well as words that fit with God's standard of righteousness. For instance, 1 Peter 3:10 says, "For 'He who would love life And see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips from speaking deceit.'" Yes, your words matter to God. And, in order to be pleasing to Him, He must be given control over them in order to direct you away from evil words and direct you toward using words that are pure!

So, giving God control of your words is important to giving God control over your entire life! In this lesson, we want to learn the importance of giving God control of your words and how you can give God control of your words.

responses that you offer to situations. Even every word that is uttered with little-to-no thought will be subject to God's final judgment of your life – and will impact whether you will spend eternity in Heaven or Hell!

## Your words are powerful

Not only are the words you speak important to God and will be included in your final Judgment, but they make a difference while you live on this earth! Consider what is taught in James 3:1-12.

“My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body. Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body. Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires. Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so. Does a spring send forth fresh water and bitter from the same opening? Can a fig tree, my brethren, bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Thus no spring yields both salt water and fresh.”

This passage demonstrates the power of the tongue (particularly its destructive power), even though it is a small member of the human body. This point is made by comparing the tongue to (1) horses that are controlled by small bits put inside their mouths, (2) large ships that are driven by a small rudder, and (3) great forest fires that begin as only small fires. So, even though the tongue is a very small member of your physical body, it has the potential to cause much destruction if it is not properly controlled!

In addition to its destructive power, the Bible also teaches the great power for good that the tongue

has! For instance, Proverbs 15:23 says, “A man has joy by the answer of his mouth, And a word spoken in due season, how good it is!” Proverbs 25:11 says, “A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold In settings of silver.” Proverbs 12:25 says, “Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, But a good word makes it glad.” Proverbs 15:1 says, “A soft answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger.”

Furthermore, this passage (James 3) demonstrates the difficulty involved in controlling your tongue. I believe the phrase “no man can tame the tongue” (James 3:8) means that you cannot tame it to the point that you no longer need to exercise constant watchfulness over it! It is possible to make wild and fierce animals tame (though they still require the proper care). However, the tongue can never be left to its own devices! You must exercise constant watch care over it! You must be diligent to exercise the proper self-discipline over the tongue – because you must not be hypocritical and allow your tongue to speak words of praise to God and then use it against your fellow man!

So, you must be diligent and recognize the destructive power possessed by the words that you use – as well as the power for good that is possessed by your words! The Christian, of course, must be dedicated to using his/her words for good – and for nothing that is sinful! Recognize that once you speak a word, you can never take it back. Your words are like bullets fired from a gun. Once the trigger is pulled, you cannot undo what is done. So, before you ever “pull the trigger,” you must make sure that you are going to accomplish the right purpose! For, there have been many relationships that have been destroyed and many souls that have been discouraged from following Jesus Christ because of evil words that have been carelessly spoken. And, there have been many who have been encouraged to follow the Lord because of good words that have been carefully spoken.

Therefore, the Christian must learn to be “slow to speak,” choosing his/her words very carefully and sparingly. James 1:19 says, “So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.” You must not speak without considering whether your words will accomplish good or evil. If you are not sure, refrain from speaking! Proverbs 10:19 says, “In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, But he who restrains his lips is wise.” Proverbs 17:27 says, “He

who has knowledge spares his words, And a man of understanding is of a calm spirit.” Save all your words until you are sure that they will accomplish good for the Lord!

## **Not all words please God**

Whenever God gives instructions about transforming your life from the old man who was involved in sin to the new man who is committed to righteousness, He teaches that your words must be included in this transformation. Consider the following passages to recognize the simple point that some words please God and some words do not please Him.

First, consider Ephesians 4. After teaching you to put off the old man and put on the new man (verses 20-24), Paul gives some examples of this transformation. For instance, verse 25 says, “Therefore, putting away lying, ‘Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,’ for we are members of one another.” Verse 29 says, “Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.” And verse 31 says, “Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.”

Second, consider Ephesians 5. After teaching that you must be an imitator of God and walk in love, as Christ has loved us (verses 1 and 2), Paul identifies some things that those who are Christians must not be involved in. “But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks” (verses 3-4).

Third, consider Colossians 3. In a similar context about transformation, the apostle Paul again identifies that some kinds of speech are not pleasing to God. Verses 8-9 say, “But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds.”

Although we could consider other passages besides these, I believe the point has been adequately demonstrated. God cares about what you say! There are clearly some types of speech that belong to the old man that had a lifestyle of sin and rebellion against God. These types of speech contributed to the punishment God had promised to bring on you for

sinning against Him. Then, there are clearly some other types of speech that belong to the new man that is focused on pleasing and serving God in all things. These types of speech contribute to using everything about your life to bring glory to God and will help you go to Heaven. Therefore, recognize that every word you say will fall into one of these two categories. Either the word belongs to the old man or the new man, displeases God or pleases God, falls short of glorifying God or glorifies Him.

## **God has a plan for your words**

Your words matter to God. And, because the words that you use matter to God, He has not left you without direction in this matter. He has revealed a standard for how you are to speak. This standard is His written word – the Bible. Particularly, you live under the law of the New Testament.

Whenever you stand before Jesus Christ and give an account for every word that you have said, each word will be judged by this word of God. For instance, Jesus said, “He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him – the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day” (John 12:48). Then, on this Day of Judgment, Revelation 20 pictures all people who have lived standing before the throne of God and the books being opened. “And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books” (verse 12). These are the books that contain the law of God.

It is, indeed, a sobering thought to consider that every word you say while you live on this earth will be subject to God’s Judgment one Day. Fortunately, God has revealed the standard He will judge you by. Again, it is the law that He has revealed in the pages of His word. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 says, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

Therefore, you must determine that whatever words you will say will have Bible authority behind them. Colossians 3:17 says, “And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” If Jesus does not approve of your words (as He instructs you through the pages of Scripture), you must keep away from them. Recognize that your words are *not*

right simply because you feel that they are right or because someone has told you that they are right. Instead, your words are only right if you can prove they are right by what God has taught you to say in the pages of Scripture!

## How To Give God Control Of Your Words

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It is important to give God full control of your words. But, there are many challenges in doing this. God is not the only one who wants control over your words so that He may use them to accomplish His purposes. Instead, Satan also wants control over them so that he might accomplish his purposes through your words. So, how can you give God control of your words?

### Recognize God's plan is best

Giving God full control of your words is a transformative decision. In doing so, you are determining to put off all the words that God condemns and put on all the words that are pleasing to God. Again, Proverbs 3:5-6 says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths." So, in order to give your words over to God's control, you must be absolutely convinced that God's plan for your words is the right one!

There are two things you need to consider about God's plan for your words to recognize that His plan is the best plan. First, you must recognize that His plan is best for you *physically*. There are so many times that people bring unnecessary suffering and sorrow on themselves because they use words that they should not be using. For instance, some people suffer because they lie and deceive and then get caught. Some people develop reputations of being gossips. Some people speak angry words that ruin relationships. Some people have to try and repair relationships because they did not take the time to think about the words they were going to say.

Second, you must recognize that God's plan for your words is best for you *spiritually*. As we have already discussed, God will hold you responsible for the words that you speak. Therefore, you must even

consider that you will reap what you sow with regard to your words! Galatians 6:7-8 says, "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life." So, if you are speaking words that fulfill fleshly desires rather than God's desires, your soul will suffer the eternal consequences. On the other hand, if you speak words that fulfill God's purposes rather than fleshly purposes, your soul will be eternally rewarded (if you are obedient to God in other areas as well)!

### Put off all evil words

David prayed, "Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips" (Psalm 141:3). If you truly desire to give God full control over your life, you will also want Him to set a guard over your mouth – so that you do not say evil words. Please consider a sample of evil types of speech that you must put off.

**1) Filthy and corrupt words.** Ephesians 4:29 identifies "corrupt" words as part of the speech that was found in the old man of sin – and not in the new man who has been transformed to walk according to the instructions of God. Paul instructed, "Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth..." The word "corrupt" refers to something that is rotten, corrupted, bad, worthless, and not fit for use. Certainly, much of the way that the world speaks would fit into this general category. Such as: Using God's name in vain, profanity, gossip, euphemisms, etc. This is simply not the way of the Christian's speech!

Ephesians 5:4 also identifies filthiness and foolish talking as part of the old man of sin. First, the term "filthiness" refers to shamefulness and obscenity. This shameful or obscene conduct could be in thought, in word, or in deed – as they are all pleasing to God. As the term "filthiness" implies, it is contrary to the way of purity (in thought, in deed, and in word). However, this term (in this context) appears to have specific application to your words. So, your words must be in keeping with God's standard for holiness and not in ways of shamefulness and obscenity. Second, foolish talking refers to words that are both foolish and sinful, reflecting the foolishness of your heart. These things (according to Ephesians 5:3-4) must not even be

named among the saints – as they are not fitting for the way God expects Christians to conduct themselves!

Though these terms are quite general in nature, they would certainly have application to the specific areas we are now going to begin considering. So, even though I may not reference these passages at those times, please keep them in your mind and make these applications. Remember, these words are not fitting for those who want to give God complete control.

**2) Profanity.** The word “profanity” identifies speech that is offensive. Now, it is important to recognize that the Bible does not condemn all speech simply because it is offensive to others. For instance, when Jesus rebuked the scribes and Pharisees of His day, His disciples recognized that they were offended by what Jesus had said (Matthew 15:12). However, the distinction lies in the fact that Jesus was accomplishing God’s will by teaching them the way of truth and was not at all going against God’s standard for holiness. Yet, there are a number of words/phrases you can use that do go against God’s standard for holiness because they demonstrate to others a willingness to use offensive language as part of your vocabulary.

You probably know the terms that are generally recognized as being “profanity.” I do not need to spell them out for you in this lesson. If, by chance, you are not sure what these terms are, a quick internet search will get you started to learn some terms you need to avoid! If you decide to go ahead and use these words that are considered to be offensive to others, you will have greater difficulty showing Christ to them! Therefore, you do need to seriously consider how those who hear you speak consider the terms that you use. However, even if those you are talking with do not recognize certain terms as being vulgar language, you will still be setting a bad example for them (demonstrating to them that you are willing to use terms that are offensive to others). This is not the way of giving God complete control over your words!

**3) Using God’s name in vain.** Under the Old Testament, the Israelites (who were supposed to be God’s holy people) were specifically instructed not to take God’s holy name in vain. Exodus 20:7 says, “You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.” Leviticus

19:12 says, “And you shall not swear by My name falsely, nor shall you profane the name of your God: I am the Lord.” Instead, of taking God’s name in vain, they needed to remember that God’s name is holy and reverend (awesome)! Psalm 111:9 says, “He has sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever: Holy and awesome is His name.” To use God’s name in vain, then, would be to use it in a way that is worthless and empty of its full meaning!

Where is the righteousness in using God’s holy and awesome name in a way that is empty and devoid of its full meaning? Again, God directly condemns such corrupt (worthless) speech, as we observed in Ephesians 4:29. Speaking in this way simply does not show that you truly recognize the magnificence of God! Instead, many use the word “God” as a meaningless expression about their frustration, surprise, etc. So, I ask you to consider: Whenever you use the name of God (or even the term “God”), evaluate whether you are really using it in a way that brings honor to Him – or if you are using it in a way that is lower than its true magnificence!

**4) Euphemisms.** A euphemism is a term that is used as a substitute for profanity that is usually considered less offensive and more acceptable. For every one term of profanity, there are many euphemistic expressions that are substituted for the same! There are even euphemistic terms/expressions that are used to take God’s name in vain. To know whether a word is a euphemistic expression or not, simply ask yourself whether the term you use is a substitute for profanity or for taking God’s name in vain. Some examples of euphemistic expressions are: “OMG,” “shoot,” and many others I do not wish to write. Again, there are many websites that will demonstrate words that are used in euphemistic ways, helping you even to see which words/phrases they are substitutes for.

While some may view this as being too “strict” or just knit-picking, this is really about the need for you to be pure in your speech! How can you consider your speech to be under God’s full control if you are trying to curse – without really cursing? You see, giving God full control is *not* about trying to get as close to the “line” between right and wrong as you can get! Instead, you should have the desire to get as far away from evil as you can possibly get.

**5) Gossip.** Gossip is useless talk or rumor, especially regarding the personal or private affairs of

others. You must recognize that gossip is *not* just about contributing to the spread of false information (though it is often manifested as such). Instead, gossip can also occur when you spread information that is true! Gossip (also consider the Bible terms “whisperers” and “busybodies”) is always condemned in the Bible (i.e. Romans 1:29; 1 Timothy 5:13; 1 Peter 4:15).

Gossip is simply not part of what God wants from your speech! Not only is it directly condemned in the Scriptures, but it is contrary to the instructions of God to speak things that edify (Ephesians 4:29)! Gossip is distinguished from other forms of speech in its intent. The intent of gossip is not to bring about anything that is constructive and spiritually helpful. Instead, the intent is just to talk about someone else, to tear down someone’s reputation, to be popular with others, to spread news about others just for the sake of spreading news, etc. So, gossip reflects a heart that does not have the best interest of others as a primary concern!

**6) Coarse jesting.** Coarse jesting is also condemned in Ephesians 5:4. It is included in the speech that has no part in the Christian’s life. This, along with the other sins listed in this passage, will keep you out of the kingdom of Christ and God!

Coarse jesting indicates witty speech that is not fitting with the grace and love which ought to flavor the Christian’s every word! This may be manifested in the use of “suggestive humor” (suggestive of things that are not pure), double or hidden meanings (which are not pure), etc. The NIV (2011) translates this word, “coarse joking.” So, this term applies to any attempt at humor or the use of one’s wit that runs contrary to the purity God expects from His people in their speech. Again, this kind of speech is contrary to the way of God!

## **Purpose your words to serve God**

David prayed, “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer” (Psalm 19:14). If you want to give God control over your life, you will want your words to be acceptable in the sight of God. Please consider a sample of the kinds of words that you should be using to serve God.

**1) Worship.** What better use of your tongue is there than to worship your Creator? Hebrews 13:15 says, “Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips,

giving thanks to His name.” You should be engaged in praising God with your mouth frequently! Involved in this should also be the giving of thanks to God. Ephesians 5:4 says, “neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.”

How often do you offer the fruit of your lips to God? This could be done by praying to Him. This could be done by singing praises to His glorious name. This could be done by preaching His saving message to others around you. Regardless of how you accomplish it (as long as it is in accordance with the way of truth), you must be diligent in offering praises to God!

**2) Sound speech that cannot be condemned.** Titus 2:6-8 describes the commitment that young, male Christians ought to have to personal purity as members of a local body of Christ. Specifically, verse 8 gives the instruction to use “sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you.” The overall life of the Christian who is committed to serving God will result (like Jesus) in one’s opponents having no reasonable objection against him! Certainly, an important element of this is the way in which one speaks. For, if an individual was guilty of sins of the tongue, then his/her opponents could have a reasonable complaint against him/her.

Now, let’s focus on the specific instruction regarding your speech. It is to be “sound speech that cannot be condemned.” (1) It is speech that is sound (entirely healthy and pure, with no mixture of error in it). (2) It is speech that can have nothing evil truly said against it – because there is no mixture of error in it. So, your speech must not be “pushing the boundaries” between what you believe is acceptable and unacceptable speech. Instead, your speech must focus on that which you know to be entirely pure and holy! As you speak, you should ask yourself if your speech is “sound speech that cannot be condemned.”

**3) Speech seasoned with salt.** Colossians 4:6 describes the way in which Christians ought to speak – with a particular focus toward those who are not Christians (though this would certainly apply to your discourse with Christians also). “Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.”

In a general sense, you need to apply this instruction to every area of your speech. Your speech must be with grace. That is, your speech must be fitting with the God-given standard for His people (those who have received His grace). Your speech must not sound the same as those who have never accessed the grace of God! Your speech must also be as if it was “seasoned with salt.” Your speech, therefore, must not be bitter or harmful to others. Instead, it must be “palatable” and helpful to those who hear (note that this can still be true even if your words are not what others *want* to hear).

**4) The truth of God’s word.** Just as you must use your tongue to praise God, you must use your tongue to spread His saving message to others! After all, it is through the “foolishness of the message preached” that God has chosen to have His saving message spread to others (1 Corinthians 1:21; also see Romans 10:13-18). So, His people today must realize that it is their responsibility to use their words to help others come to learn and obey God’s saving message!

Therefore, you must be devoted to this work of spreading God’s message to those you come into contact with! Jeremiah 20:9 describes the attitude of the prophet Jeremiah, who (even though he tried) could not keep himself from speaking the message of God: “Then I said, ‘I will not make mention of Him, Nor speak anymore in His name.’ But His word was in my heart like a burning fire Shut up in my bones; I was weary of holding it back, And I could not.” Similarly, the apostle Paul said that he was ready to preach the gospel of Christ, because he realized that the gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation for all who believe (Romans 1:15-17)! Then, you must always speak the word of truth in love (Ephesians 4:15)!

**5) Words of edification to the hearers.** As we’ve already discussed, your words are powerful in accomplishing good. You can even use your words to build others up spiritually! Perhaps you know someone who is going through a difficult time. Your words have the power to turn away depression and make his/her heart glad (Proverbs 12:25)! This is why the Proverbs teach the value of a word that is “fitly spoken” (Proverbs 15:23; Proverbs 25:11)!

You must always be concerned about speaking words that build others up spiritually. And, you must never be involved in speaking words that

bring about the spiritual ruin of those who hear. For instance, 2 Timothy 2:14 identifies the fact that it is possible to speak in a way that ruins the hearers: “Remind them of these things, charging them before the Lord not to strive about words to no profit, to the ruin of the hearers.” In fact, Ephesians 4:29 says, “Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.”

**6) Words of truth.** Christians have the responsibility of putting off the sinful ways of deceit and lying, and putting on the ways of speaking truth with all men! Ephesians 4:25 indicates that this is so (as well as many other passages). Again, it says, “Therefore, putting away lying, ‘Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor....’”

Christians must have no part in slander (lying about other people) or in deceiving others (see Romans 1:29)! It is simply *not* okay for a Christian to tell a lie or to mislead others for *any* reason! Instead, the Christian is expected to tell complete truth *always*! Remember, there is no such thing as a “pure/harmless lie” (a.k.a. a “white lie”).

**7) “Yes” and “no.”** In Matthew 5:33-37, Jesus forbade making oaths. He said, “Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your oaths to the Lord.’ But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is God’s throne; nor by the earth, for it is His footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. Nor shall you swear by your head, because you cannot make one hair white or black. But let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No.’ For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.”

Jesus described that these types of oaths would be made, swearing by someone greater than themselves. However, Jesus also demonstrated the foolishness involved in this by pointing out that you are not in full control – regardless of what you swear by. Instead, Jesus said that you are to simply allow your “yes” to mean “yes” – and your “no” to mean “no.” So, you must simply allow your words to mean what they say! Notice that Jesus said, “whatever is more than these is from the evil one.”

## Conclusion

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Have you given control of your words to God? Are you focused entirely on using your mouth to accomplish God's purposes? If you have given God full control of your words, you will not have to fear being judged for all the things that you have said in the past. They will have served His purposes and accomplished good during your earthly life.

But, if you have not given God full control of your words, you will have something to fear when you stand before God. Your words will have been harmful and destructive during your time on this earth. And, you will be condemned by the words you have spoken. If you have not given God control of your words, repent quickly and turn them over to God today!

## Study Questions

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What are your words used to convey?

### 1. The Importance Of Giving God Control Of Your Words

How many of your words does God hear? Why does it matter that God hears your words?

How powerful are your words?

Does every kind of word please God?

Does God have a plan for the words you say? Where you can learn about this plan?

## 2. How To Give God Control Of Your Words

Why is God's plan for your words the best plan?

Explain why the following types of words must be put off:

1. Filthy and corrupt words –
2. Profanity –
3. Using God's name in vain –
4. Euphemisms –
5. Gossip –
6. Coarse jesting –

Explain how the following types of words serve God:

1. Worship –
2. Sound speech that cannot be condemned –
3. Speech seasoned with salt –
4. The truth of God's word –
5. Words of edification to the hearers –
6. Words of truth –
7. "Yes" and "no" –

**\*Have you given control of your words to God?**