Evil Communications Corrupt Good Character

Adam Willingham · Colossians 3:5–10

INTRODUCTION

- I want to talk to you this morning about filthy language.
- And I don't mean just profanity, but I'm going to sort of use this term filthy language to be a sort of a blanket for many other types of bad language that someone might use.

1 Abusive Speech

Colossians 3:8; Matthew 5:22; Proverbs 17:27

- But now you also put them all aside anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth.
- It's not always just the word, but it's how we use the word. And it's the attitude behind the word.
- When you are angry, a word of advice from the Word of God would be, keep silent.
- You can always add words, but you can never take words away.

2 Unwholesome Speech

Ephesians 4:29; Matthew 12:33; Colossians 4:6

- Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification, according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.
- So this is any word which is obscene, which is offensive, and which is harmful.
- Brethren, it's not about what's right, it's about what's best.
- First of all, our speech should build others up. It shouldn't tear others down.

3 Foolish Talking and Careless Words

Ephesians 5:3–4; Matthew 12:36–37

- Neither filthiness nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.
- Godless speech that is without forethought and without wisdom. Such speech, brethren, must not even be named among us.
- Every careless word that men may speak, they shall give an accounting for it on the day of judgment.
- Brethren, we need to be careful not to utter careless words, whether it be in Bible classes or whether it be in the pulpit or whether it be in our daily conversations.

4 Coarse Jesting

Ephesians 5:4

- It is witty speech that includes sinful insinuations.

- In other words, more or less, the way I see it, this is basically dirty jokes.
- Brethren, we ought to be ashamed for participating in such base conversation as the world participates in.
- Such speech is not fitting. Because we're not of the world. We are of Christ. We are Christians.

5 Abusing the Lord's Name

Hebrews 12:28; Exodus 20:7

- This is anytime we use the names of God or Jesus or even the Holy Spirit to merely express emotion.
- Any time that we use God's name in a common or profane way is, I believe, disrespectful and irreverent to God and to Jesus.
- Let us show gratitude by which we may offer to God acceptable service with reverence and awe.
- You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not leave him unpunished who takes his name in vain.

6 We Ought Not Even Hear That Kind of Language

1 Corinthians 15:33; Matthew 12:34

- We ought not even hear that kind of language. We ought to guard ourselves. Hearing it results in speaking it.
- Do not be deceived. Evil company corrupts good morals, 1 Corinthians 15 and verse 33.
- People will imitate the way we talk. Because our children are parrots too.
- If it weren't in your heart in the first place, even medicine wouldn't cause it to slip. So don't put it in your heart and it won't slip out.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **May we, brethren, as disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, guard our tongue and our heart to be pure before his sight.**

MY NOTES