

Words Words Words by Doug Boring

I've heard it said, our memory is like a bucket used to carry water that has a lot of holes in it. The challenge is to put the water in faster than its going out. I hope these thoughts will serve as a reminder of what you may already know.

We are called to a higher standard. Paul told Titus, "in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified, sound in speech which is beyond reproach" You may respond that James said, "But no one can tame the tongue; it is a restless evil and full of deadly poison." Unfortunately, this is a good contrast. This is a weakness that human beings have. "From the same mouth come both blessing and cursing." James went on to say, "My brethren, these things ought not to be this way." The answer to these passages is, Christians can and should tame the tongue, to an extent of purity which is above reproach. We are called to be holy as our Father is holy. We strive to enter heaven. We strive to be like God. We must strive to "speak as the oracles of God" Yes, it's hard but we can do it. God does not require anything of us that is impossible.

Now comes the good part; application. This is where we try to apply these relevant words of God to our lives. To start with, Christians are not to talk like the world does. Some use God's name in vain so often and so casually that one almost wouldn't even notice it. Another may wonder if they even realized they just took the Lord's name in vain. They aren't mad, that's just the way they talk.

Another area we need to watch for is using vulgar phrases that the world uses. We should be careful of terms like "brown nose" and "freaking" and many others such as this. Yet another area we need to watch out for is using letters in place of words. I'll not list any of them for the integrity of this publication, but I will say this, "omg" is not a misspelled word. Good chance you have already heard them anyway. There are so many traps of the devil we really need to beware of.

The last area of this inconclusive list is, euphemisms. You know what I'm talking about, those not so bad words we use instead of using the really bad word. Our language is full of them: dang, gee, wussy, gosh, freaken, heck, etc, etc, etc. It seems there is no end to the generation of euphemisms. How are we to respond? "above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath; but **your yes is to be yes, and your no, no, so that you may not fall under judgment.**"