

“The Christian’s New Clothes: Clean Mouth”

Ephesians 4:29

C. I. T.—Jesus requires a higher standard of speech.

C. I. S.—You need the influence of Christ in your life in order to meet his expectations for your speech.

Purpose—I want to see a revival of the heart/mouth.

Introduction—Orbit Gum—Gives you a good clean feeling, no matter what

**I. *Christians shouldn’t have stank breath.***

- a. Total prohibition of certain language.
- b. Sapos—soured and rotten fruit
  - i. Foul language
  - ii. Dirty jokes
  - iii. Off color remarks
- c. Sapos—a tree producing worthless/empty fruit
  - i. Lies and dishonesty; Gossip; Cut-downs; Slander
  - ii. Critical/complaining spirit
  - iii. Sometimes the truth, w/o love
  - iv. **1 Timothy 6:3-5**—arguments and disputes
- d. Illus.—Close talker w/stinky breath, heavy breathing talking—some should keep masks
- e. Application
  - i. When you speak this way, you pour forth sewage from your mouths.
  - ii. Everyone is affected.
  - iii. Regardless of how you look or how successful you are, you will be forever known as having stank breath.
  - iv. Christians aren’t supposed to have stank breath, but instead sweet breath.

**II. *Christians should have sweet breath.***

- a. Agathos—good fruit
  - i. Opposite of Sapos
  - ii. Tasty/sweet
  - iii. Nutritious/healthy
- b. Edifying speech—It builds up.
  - i. Adds to one’s life instead of tearing down.
  - ii. Encouragement/Chastisement
  - iii. Rebuke when it helps
- c. Appropriate speech
  - i. In accordance with the individual’s need.
  - ii. In accordance with the circumstance
  - iii. **Proverbs 25:11; 15:23**
- d. Grace speech
  - i. Favorable/blessing
  - ii. Other people benefit from the words that you say.
  - iii. **Romans 10:15**
- e. Illus.—Caleb’s—Magnetic personality—tied to his encouraging words
- f. Application
  - i. You are encouraged and uplifted whenever they are around.
  - ii. We should strive to be someone that others want to be around.

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- iii. When someone is in our presence they should feel encouraged and refreshed.
- iv. Our mouth should point to Jesus.

Conclusion

- Tongue Needs Jesus
- James 3:1-12—The Tongue cannot be controlled.
- Matthew 12:34—It will speak what is in the heart.
- Psalm 141:3—Jesus can change what is in the heart.
- Only Jesus can give you a good clean feeling.

**1 Timothy 6:3** If anyone teaches false doctrine and does not agree with the sound teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ and with the teaching that promotes godliness, <sup>4</sup> he is conceited and understands nothing, but has an unhealthy interest in disputes and arguments over words. From these come envy, quarreling, slander, evil suspicions, <sup>5</sup> and constant disagreement among people whose minds are depraved and deprived of the truth, who imagine that godliness is a way to material gain.

**Proverbs 25:11** A word spoken at the right time is like gold apples in silver settings.

**Proverbs 15:23** A person takes joy in giving an answer; and a timely word-- how good that is!

**Romans 10:15** And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news.