HOW TO GO DEEPER WITH YOUR WORDS

Beneath the Surface—Part 1

There was a man all alone [...] This too is meaningless—a miserable business! Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.

But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.

(Ecclesiastes 4:8-10)

Start with your HEART

A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of." (Luke 6:45)

Speak with GRACE AND TRUTH

We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. [...] grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. (John 1:14; 17)

Instead, speaking the <u>truth in love</u>, we will grow to become [like] Christ." (Ephesians 4:15)

<u>Gracious</u> words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. (Proverbs 16:24)

The <u>Lord detests lying</u> lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy.

(Proverbs 12:22)

WORDS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

"I am sorry."

(CONFESSION)

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9, See also James 5:16)

Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

(Matthew 5:23-24)

"You are great!"

(AFFIRMATION)

See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But encourage one another daily.

(Hebrews 3:12-13)

The soothing tongue is a tree of life, but a perverse tongue crushes the spirit. (Proverbs 15:4, See also 10:21)

"Are you okay?"

(COMPASSION)

Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn."

(Romans 12:15)

Anxiety weighs down the heart, but a kind word cheers it up.

(Proverbs 12:25)

"You are forgiven."

(RESTORATION)

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

(Matthew 18:21-22)

"We have a problem."

(CONFRONTATION)

"Wounds from a friend can be trusted."

(Proverbs 27:6)

This week's GO DEEPER challenge:

Pick FOUR of the FIVE "words" and say them to someone this week.

Email me and let me know how it goes: matt.mcgill@newlifepismo.com

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