

Speech in Today's Society/ Kevin Moore, FHU Professor of Bible and Missions
 Kmooreperspective.blogspot.com

"When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things" (1 Cor. 13:11, NKJV). There is a difference between childish speech and mature speech. There is also a difference between worldly speech and Christ-like speech. How do the words I use and the way I speak reflect my character, priorities, and allegiances and thereby influence others?

A YOUNG CHRISTIAN'S SPEECH

Timothy is first mentioned by name in scripture in Acts 16:1-3 as a disciple in Lystra early AD 50, though presumably included among these brethren a few years earlier (Acts 14:20-22). Over a dozen years later, Paul, in his old age (cf. Philem. 9), writes a letter to Timothy wherein he mentions Timothy's "youth" (1 Tim. 4:12). If Timothy were in his mid- to late-30s at the time, he would have been in his early- to mid-20s when he first joined Paul's mission team... But with respect to Timothy's maturity and proven character, Paul readily considers him a "man of God" (1 Tim. 6:11).

While the young evangelist worked with the Christian community at Ephesus, the aged apostle exhorted him, "Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word [logos - speech], in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (1 Tim. 4:12). Despite his relatively young age, Timothy was no longer speaking, understanding, and thinking as a child but as a mature man of God. His speech and conduct were worthy of emulation by those within his sphere of influence.

Another coworker of Paul's was instructed to "exhort young men to be sober-minded, in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say to you" (Tit. 2:6-8).

IMPORTANCE OF OUR SPEECH

Jesus issued a stern warning about our spoken words: "But I say to you that for every idle [careless] 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" (Matt. 12:36-37).

Indicative of a mature Christian exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit, self-control (Gal. 5:23) is reflected in our speech. The Lord's brother writes, "So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God" (Jas. 1:19-20). Again, "If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless" (Jas. 1:26). In fact, James devotes nearly a whole chapter to the weighty importance of bridling the tongue (Jas. 3:1-12).

Inevitably what comes out of the mouth is already in the heart (cf. Mark 7:21-23). It is imperative, therefore, to feed our minds and fill our hearts with that which produces wholesome speech. "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy - meditate on these things" (Phil. 4:8)...

SILENT SPEECH

Sometimes the wisest and most impactful thing to say is nothing at all. "In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, But he who restrains his lips is wise" (Prov. 10:19). Prior to Christ's crucifixion, through much of his unfair trial and undeserved humiliation, torture, and condemnation, he was silent (Matt. 26:63; Acts 8:32). An obvious indicator of Christ-like maturity is exercising restraint and knowing when to hold our tongues.

Speech is more than vocalized words. Social media has provided a platform that enables almost anyone to express his or her views on just about anything. It is unwise and a sure sign of immaturity to react to something by immediately posting a response. Instead, we ought to think, pray, and wait. Is a verbal response actually needed? Will my reaction, whether in words or in silence, demonstrate a Christ-like spirit? "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one" (Col. 4:6)...

CONCLUSION

Our words, whether spoken, texted, or posted, reflect what is already in our hearts. If we take our Christian faith seriously and are growing and striving to develop maturity in Christ, we will intentionally avoid instigators of corrupt speech and immerse ourselves in that which produces wholesome speech - for HIS glory. --Kevin L. Moore

On Our Prayer List...

Dennis Wright-recovering fr knee surg.
W. R. Long
Al & Vicki Peek

Anita Buckner
Jimmy Phy
Toad Smith

Jimmy Long

- ***Doug Stewart**-(Ruby Dell's step son)was able to go home
- ***Jerry Belles**-hospice@ home
- ***June Dreaden**-S. Rachford's mom
- ***Mike Mathis**-(Keith&Linda Rodger's son) (still in hosp in Huntsville, AL, is improving)
- ***Katherine Schaper**-(Linda Rodger's sister)broken femur in rehab in Huntsville.
- ***Ann Ross**-complications after hip surg-asking for prayers.
- ***Tommy Robinson** -(Thomas Cook's grfather)**Faye Hooper**-fell-been in the hosp.
- ***Nancy Turner**—still in the hospital & continues to need prayers.
- ***Ronnie Pleasant**-Hustburg COC-recent surg-requesting prayers
- ***Marvin Estes**-(bloodclot in lungs) ***Mike Parrish**-(Wesley's son) HM
- ***Wiley Marshall**-(Traci's dad)-more medical issues, waiting test results
- ***Shirley Proctor**-(Robert's mom) now hm /***Frank Marshall**-Traci Adams mom
- ***Stephanie Dotson**-(Paula Pittman's dght)complications fr heart surg still in St Thomas Wt
- ***Shane Cobb**—complications fr diabetes-toe/foot amputated
- ***Wayne Hatcher**-mass on liver-surg./ ***Frank Hall**-(Roy Deloach's brother-in-law)-Dialysis/***John Henry & Carlene Davis**

THOSE DEALING/BEING TREATED FOR CANCER

- Rita Stevens**-CA has returned-treatments to follow
- ***Jackie Borders**- Lauren Stuart's mom
- ***Kim Marlow**-F. Featherstone dght/R. Proctor sister
- ***Tresa Garber Staggs** -Frankie's daughter
- ***Wanda Wright**—now on Immunotherapy mthly
- ***Barry Dean**-grandfather of a friend of Rachel Bell's
- ***Larry Hayes**-(fr Waverly COC) restarted chemo
- ***Maggie Wright**-(friend of N. Buttrey) chemo
- ***David Stokes**-(Drew Swearns) step-dad
- ***Stephanie Smith**-now home
- ***Sharon Curtis**

ASSISTED LIVING & NURSING HOME

- AHC Decatur County**-726 Kentucky Ave, Parsons,TN 38363-**Wyle Marshall** (Rm 726)-Traci Adams dad
- Dickson Health & Rehab**—901 North Charlotte,Dickson,TN 37055 —**Clayton England** -Marvin's brother
- Humphreys County**-**Billy Adams**-Rm 712/**Jane Ridings**-Rehab-Rm 704
- 104 Forte Hill Rd, Waverly, TN 37185 **Waverly Rehab**-**Sharon Palk**— recovering fr broken hip
- NHC**-**Jim Buckner**-(Rm 102) **Jim & Earline Davis**-(Rm 103) **JoAnn Haley**-(Rm)**Doris Stokes**-Rm 127

MILITARY

- Dustin Proctor**-
 (Navy-Japan)
 PSC 562 Box 7273,
 FPO AP 96311-0073
- Dalton & Hope Palk** -
 (Navy-Louisiana)
 500 Woodland Dr, Apt 597

AT HOME


HERBERT CAPPS- 1400 Bradley Rd, McEwen **ELTON SMITH** - 7731 Hwy 70 East , McEwen

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

*"Sarah Parnell,s" family & friends would like to invite you to her "80th" Birthday Party on June 1st, fr 2:00-4:00 pm in our fellowship room. **Your presence is your gift.*

We will truly miss our dear brother "Earl Forster" our sympathy & prayers to his family. Visitation will be held this Thursday, from 5:00-7:00 with the service on Friday @ 1:00 PM Both here at McEwen-church of Christ.

We rejoice in the baptism of Brooklyn Curtis on Sunday. Be sure and welcome, encourage & pray for Brooklyn as she begins her new life in Christ.

 Will be here on Monday, June 3rd from 1:30 to 5:30.

Elders, Deacons & Preachers meeting this Sunday, June 2nd @ 5:00 PM

VBS—Sunday night, June 9th -Thursday-June 13th.
 *Door knocking-this Saturday, June 1st, meet here at the building @ 10:00 AM.
 *T-shirt order on back table of auditorium — deadline to order is May 29th.
 *Work day, this Sunday, June 2nd, starting @ 1:00 PM
 *Kick-Off — Friday, June 7th

You are invited to a "Meet & Greet" @ the "Jones' home" this Sunday, June 1st from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

IN.F.O.C.U.S. Faith, Obedience, Character, Unity, Salvation

Our only youth activity for last week was our devotional after evening service on Sunday night. It was the first Devo since school let out. We had a great turnout! Laurie and I hosted a group of 25 in our home. We had 14 teens, 2 little ones, and 9 adults. We began with a devotional period of singing and a devotional thought, followed by a great time of food and fellowship. I truly appreciate all our teenagers and adults t that came. .

As I mentioned Sunday night, I am canceling our Zoo trip for this Friday. I will get a new date out to everyone as soon as possible. Please remember our VBS work day this Sunday @ 1:00 PM.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday June 2nd 2024

WelcomeCalvin Buckner
Lead Singing.....Mark Forster
1st Prayer.....Joe Smith
Sermon.....John Jones
Lord's Table.....Wade Tummins
 Drew Buttrey Marvin England
 Jimmy Suddeath Gerald Curtis
 Chad Vaughn Barry Phy
Closing Prayer.....Bruce Mayfield
Collect Cards.....Collin Swearns
 & Parker Rachford
Greeters..... Not at this time
Nursery..... Not at this time
Collect Cups.....Youth
Security.....Team #5

Sunday 6PM, June 2nd 2024

Lead Singing..... Mark Forster
Prayer.....Wayne Coates
Sermon..... John Jones
Lord's Table.....Danny Dotson
 Mike Burns
Closing Prayer.....Jack Grigsby

Wednesday 6:30 PM, June 5th 2024

Lead Singing.....John Hurt
Prayer.....John Potter
Adult Class.....Bruce Mayfield

If you are unable to serve...please contact

Wade Tummins, in advance. (cell 931-209-6291)

If changes need to be made in scheduling please contact Jimmy Phy.

Published weekly by the
 McEwen church of Christ
 P.O. Box 171
 McEwen, TN. 37101

Non-profit Oran.
 U.S. Postage Paid
 McEwen, TN. 37101
 Permit No. 1

Return Service Requested

*If you are unable to attend
 any service please tune in to
 our **Facebook** page or our
YouTube page to watch the
 services. This is NOT a replacement for the
 command to assemble together as Christ's
 Body, but a tool for those who may be
 homebound/shut-in or sick.

The MESSENGER is online!
Visit the church website
to view!



OUR RECORDS for 5/26/2024

Sunday Morning Bible School — — — — —	98
Sunday Morning Worship — — — — —	192
Sunday Evening Worship — — — — —	122
Wed. -Mid-Week Bible Study (5-22)- — — —	131
Sunday Contribution — — — — —	\$8,712
Number of Seeds Planted — — — — —	8



A weekly publication of the McEwen church of Christ

Week of May 26th 2024

A Caring Church Lifting Up The CROSS And CROWN of CHRIST



Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study.....9:00am
 Worship..... 10:00am
 Evening.....6:00pm

Wednesday

Bible Study..... 6:30pm

Elders:

James Buckner	Calvin Buckner
Billy Buttrey	Bruce Mayfield
W.R. Long	Mike Robertson

Deacons:

Derek Berryman	Mike Burns
Wayne Coates	Mark Forster
John Hurt	Barry Phy
Robert Proctor	James Ridings
Elton Smith	Joe Smith
Dwight Stuart	Drew Swearns
Dennis Tester	Ethan Tummins
Wade Tummins	Ronnie Tyler

Staff:

Ministers ---- Every Member
 Pulpit ----- John Jones
 Youth ----- Keith Grigsby

Secretaries

Terri Tummins/Teresa Fleming

To Contact Us:

9704 Hwy 70 E

Mail us: P.O. Box 256

McEwen, TN 37101

E-mail: mcewencofc@gmail.com

Website: www.mcewenchurchofchrist.com

Phone: 931-582-6130