

## Leading with Words

The majority of our leadership is exercised by communicating with people. To lead effectively we therefore need to know how to speak appropriately. How can we speak in a biblical and wise way?

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- I. The importance of words for leadership
  - A. James 3.1-12
  
  - B. Besetting sins – understanding yourself
    1. Negatively – putting off
  
    2. Positively – putting on
  
- II. Communication methods
  - A. 1 to 1
  
  - B. 1 to many
  
  - C. Email
  
  - D. Social media

E. Other

III. Practical help for speaking from Proverbs

A. A gold ring = correction

B. Gold apples in silver settings = restraint

C. A kiss on the lips = honesty

D. A sharp arrow = lying

E. The honeycomb = gentleness

F. Stoking the flames = gossip

Questions for reflection:

1. What is your besetting sin when it comes to speech?
2. What damage might it do?
3. What benefit would avoiding it bring?
4. What are the particular methods you use to communicate and what are the strengths and weaknesses of each?

5. How does the gospel make a difference to speech?
6. How does the example of Jesus help us?

***Suggested Readings:***

Windsor, Lionel. *Gospel Speech Online*. (Sydney, Australia: Matthias Media)