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## Words Rule The World

*(Sticks & Stones May Break My Bones, But Words Can Break My Heart)*

(SERIES: **31 Words That Will Save Your Life : 01 of 08**)  
by Dr. David Foster

“The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.”  
(Pro 18:21 NIV)

*“There’s an unbreakable bond between the words  
you’re using and the results you’re getting.”*

### Putting My Words To Work

“But I tell you that men will have to give account on the Day of Judgment for every careless word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.” (Matthew 12:36-37 NIV)

Do my words heal or **hurt**?

Do my words elevate or **devastate**?

Do my words engage or **enrage**?

Do my words insulate or **isolate**?

Do my words inspire or **intimidate**?

### 3 Ways Words Ruin Everything

“ . . . if we could control our tongues, WE WOULD BE PERFECT and could also control ourselves in every other way. We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth. And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong. In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches. But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. And the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself. . . . Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God. And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right! Does a spring of water bubble out with both fresh water and bitter water?” (James 3:1-11 NLT)

When your words degenerate into **gossip**.

“Mean people spread mean gossip; their words smart and burn.” (Pro 16:27)

“Troublemakers start fights; gossips break up friendships.” (Pro 16:28)

“Gossips can’t keep secrets, so never confide in blabbermouths.” (Pro 20:19)

When your words create **dissention**.

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.” (Philippians 2:3-4 NIV)

When your words cause **division**.

“. . . mark them which cause divisions and offences . . . (Romans 16:17 KJV)

### The 6 Sounds We Seek

“A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”  
(Proverbs 15:1 NIV)

The Sound Of **Adoration**; “I Love You”

The Sound Of **Affirmation**; “I Believe In You”

The Sound Of **Admiration**; “I Am Proud Of You”

The Sound Of **Appreciation**; “I Need You In My Life”

The Sound Of **Empathy**; “I’m Sorry I Don’t Tell You More”

The Sound Of **Loyalty**; “I Will Not Let You Go”

“Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.” (Colossians 4:6 NLT)

### My 3 Daily “I Will’s”

1. I will act on the urge to be generous.
2. I will keep my head up and smile at people.
3. I will make someone’s day everyday.

“Giving, not getting, is the way.  
Generosity begets generosity.”  
(Luke 6:36 MSG)