

**LET'S TALK IT OVER – PART I**  
**“The Art of Verbal Sensitivity”**  
**Ephesians 4:29-32**

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God has given us the ability to communicate with him and one another. Language is a gift. We can use our speech to build up people or we can use our language to hurt each other and spread division in the church. Today's teaching will expose the variety of sins of speech that we are all guilty of, and show us how we can use our language to as a means of blessings the people in our lives.

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**#1. OUR SPEECH SHOULD NOT BE \_\_\_\_\_, v. 29**

- A. Unwholesome (*sapros*) used of rotten fruit and fish
- B. Unwholesome talk is not part of the new man in Christ, 5:4
- C. Unwholesome talk includes many sins of speech
  - 1. Dirty jokes
  - 2. Sarcasm
  - 3. Slander
  - 4. Lying
  - 5. False accusations
  - 6. Insulting people
  - 7. Disrespecting people
  - 8. Making fun of someone
  - 9. Gossip
  - 10. Malicious remarks
  - 11. Flattery
  - 12. Misinformation
  - 13. Spreading fear
  - 14. Tempting people
  - 15. Manipulation
  - 16. Speaking before thinking
  - 17. Critical spirit / judgmental

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**#2. OUR SPEECH SHOULD \_\_\_\_\_ ONE ANOTHER UP, v. 29**

- A. What is the purpose of language?
- B. We love people through our speech
- C. The love commands are fulfilled through our actions and our words

**#3. OUR SPEECH SHOULD FOCUS ON MEETING THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF OTHERS, v. 29**

- A. We need to have awareness of what others are feeling
- B. We need to look at body language
- C. We need to do a diagnostic before we speak

**#4. OUR SPEECH IS A CONVEYER OF \_\_\_\_\_, v. 29**

- A. Speech should give grace (*charis*) to the listeners, Col 4:6
- B. Speech is a means of blessing people
- C. Speech is impactful in building relationships

**#5. OUR SPEECH IS GRACIOUS WHEN OUR HEARTS ARE \_\_\_\_\_, v. 30-32**

- A. Grieving the Holy Spirit through unwholesome talk, v. 30
- B. Get rid of bitterness, rage & anger – so you don't speak it
- C. Get rid of brawling, slander & all malice – so you don't speak it, v. 31
- D. Get a kind, compassionate & forgiving heart – keep your speech filled with grace, v. 32

**ANSWERS: Venomous, Build, Needs, Grace, Gracious.**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- #1. For what purpose(s) did God give us language?
- #2. Discuss some of the varieties of unwholesome talk. Which do you think are the most harmful in a church?
- #3. In what way(s) can we fulfill the love commands through our speech?
- #4. Why is it important to be aware of the nonverbal traits of the people we are communicating with?
- #5. In what sense can our speech give grace to those who listen?
- #6. Discuss the connection between what's in our hearts and our speech. (vv. 31-32)
- #7. How does unwholesome talk grieve the Holy Spirit? (Isa 63:9-10, Psalm 78:40-41)
- #8. What is the best way to keep your speech pure?
- #9. What is your takeaway from this teaching?

# ***Welcome***

***to***

# ***Hillcrest Church!***

## ***Come as Your Are!***

*The tongue has the power of life and death,  
and those who love it will eat its fruit.*

*Proverbs 18:21*

***June 12, 2022***  
***Pastor Bruce Guckelberg***

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **TODAY**

Pastor Bruce is beginning a new series titled "Let's Talk it Over." Over the next four weeks Bruce will be teaching on the dynamics of healthy conversations. In our culture, with the advent of social media platforms, it appears face-to-face conversation is becoming a lost art. The Bible has much to say about the power of our communication and how we can love people through our words.

### **COMMUNION**

This morning we will be gathering at the Lord's table to celebrate what Jesus has done for us.

### **ONLINE GATHERINGS**

Tuesday Prayer at 7:00pm

Wednesday Bible Study at 6:30pm

Go to the online meeting room on our website ([hillcrestRoseville.com](http://hillcrestRoseville.com)) to access the gathering.

### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Our offering box is in the back of the sanctuary. You can place your tithes and offerings there, or you can visit our website and give online ([hillcrestroseville.com](http://hillcrestroseville.com)).

### **CHURCH PICNIC AUGUST 14<sup>th</sup>**

Details will be forth coming