

Getting Rid of the Bad Taste in My Mouth

“the Power of My Words”

Proverbs 18:21

Is Your Words Leaving...?

- Bad Taste

- When it's Coming from Me
- I'm Giving It...

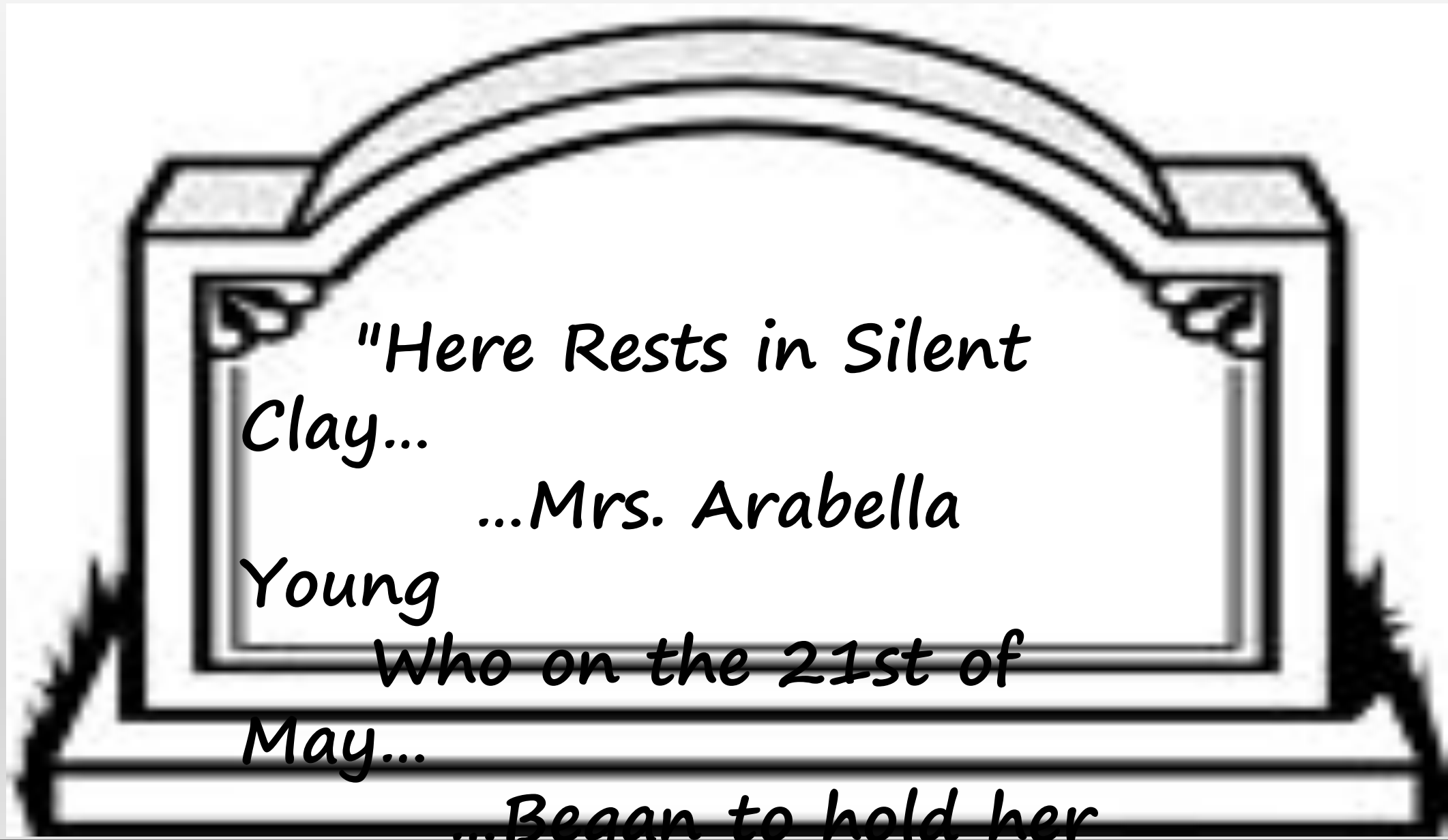
- Bad Breath

- When it's Coming toward You
- I'm Getting It...

Either Way...

...It's Time to Spit Them Out!

In a Cemetery in Ireland is a Tombstone with the Following Inscription:



"The tongue is the only tool that grows sharper with constant use."
Washington Irving

- **It was said of Jesus,**

"No one ever spoke the way this man does" -John 7:46

- **It was said of God,**

"As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were" -Rom 4:17

- **My Momma Said,**

*"Boy, Don't let your mouth write a check...
...that your behind can't cash"*



Words are Powerful

Everyone Experiences:

- Pain
- Heartache
- Misunderstanding
- Stumbling Blocks
- Setbacks

Life is:

- 5% what Happens to You
- 95% How You Respond

Our Tongue has a Major Role to Play in that 95%



Power of Your Words

Our Tongue has a Major Role to Play in that 95%

Your Words Can:

- **Lengthen**
- **Broaden**
- **Deepen**

The Gap Between Your Trial and Your Testimony

In that Gap is:

- **Pain**
- **Self-Pity**
- **Excuses**
- **Blame**
- **Attack**

Words are Powerful

Words can...

- **Wound or Heal**
- **Bless or Curse**
- **Build or Destroy**
- **Redeem or Ruin**

Proverbs 18:21

*Death and life are in the power of the tongue:
and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.*

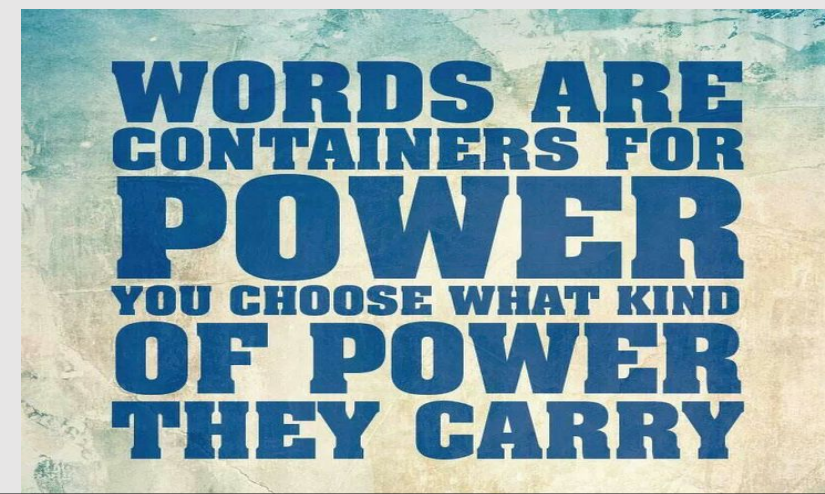
- **Extremes**
- **Experiences**

Power of Your Words

Proverbs 18:21, *“Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof”*

- **Death-** *death, place or state (hades); pestilence, ruin -to kill :crying, (put to, worthy of) death, destroy (-er), × surely, × very suddenly,*
- **Life-** *alive; fresh, strong; life, maintenance, + merry, to revive, give (promise) nourish up, preserve (alive), quicken, recover, repair, restore (to life)*
- **Power-** *power, means, direction, able, custody, dominion, fellowship, force -hand*
- **Tongue-** *Speech –language -communication*
- **Eat-** *burn up, consume, devour*
- **Fruit-** *Reward –bear, grow fruit/ evidence- first fruit*

Words are Actually Seeds



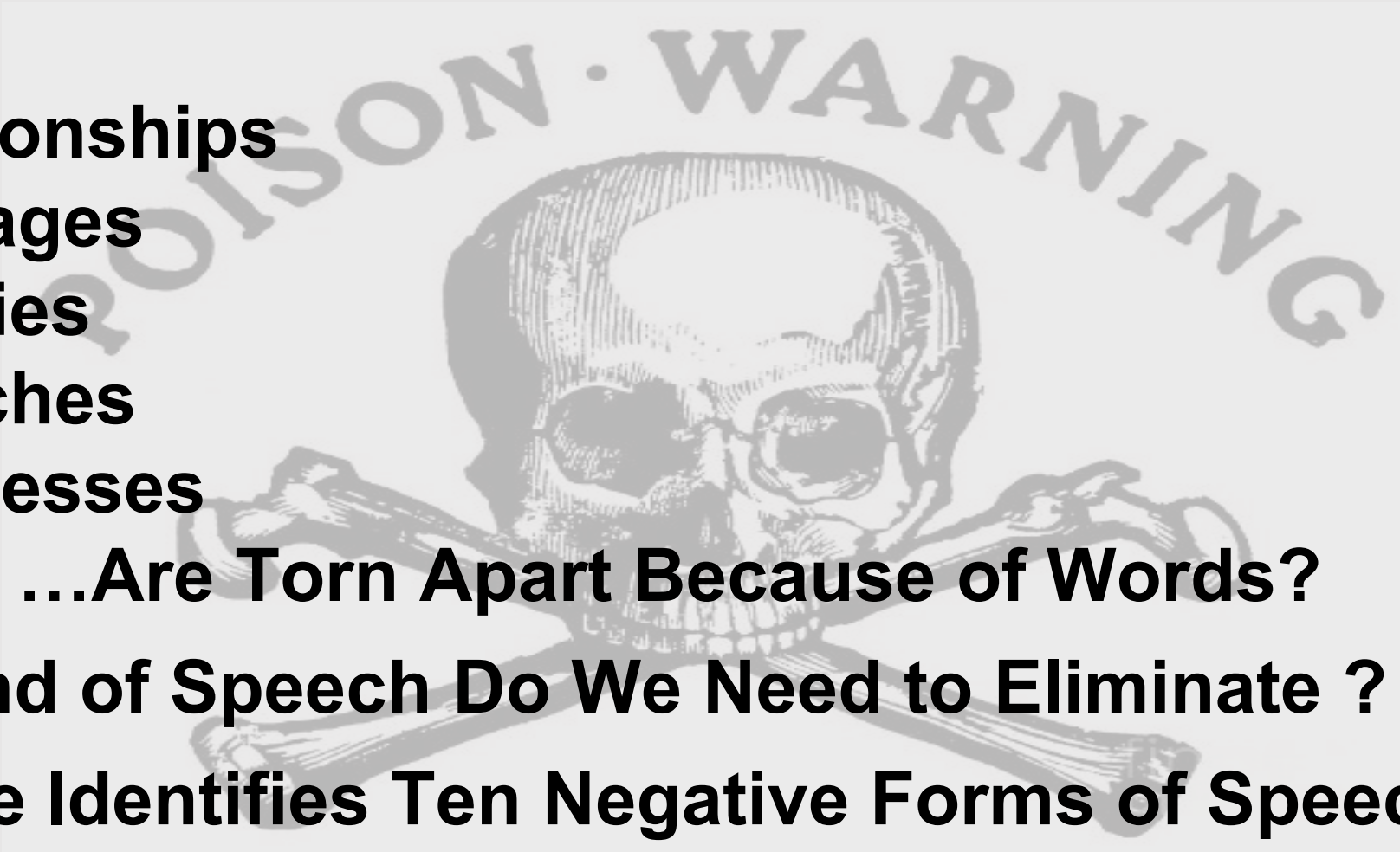
Eliminate Negative, Dysfunctional Speech

How Many...

- **Lives**
- **Relationships**
- **Marriages**
- **Families**
- **Churches**
- **Businesses**

...Are Torn Apart Because of Words?

- **What Kind of Speech Do We Need to Eliminate ?**
- **The Bible Identifies Ten Negative Forms of Speech.**

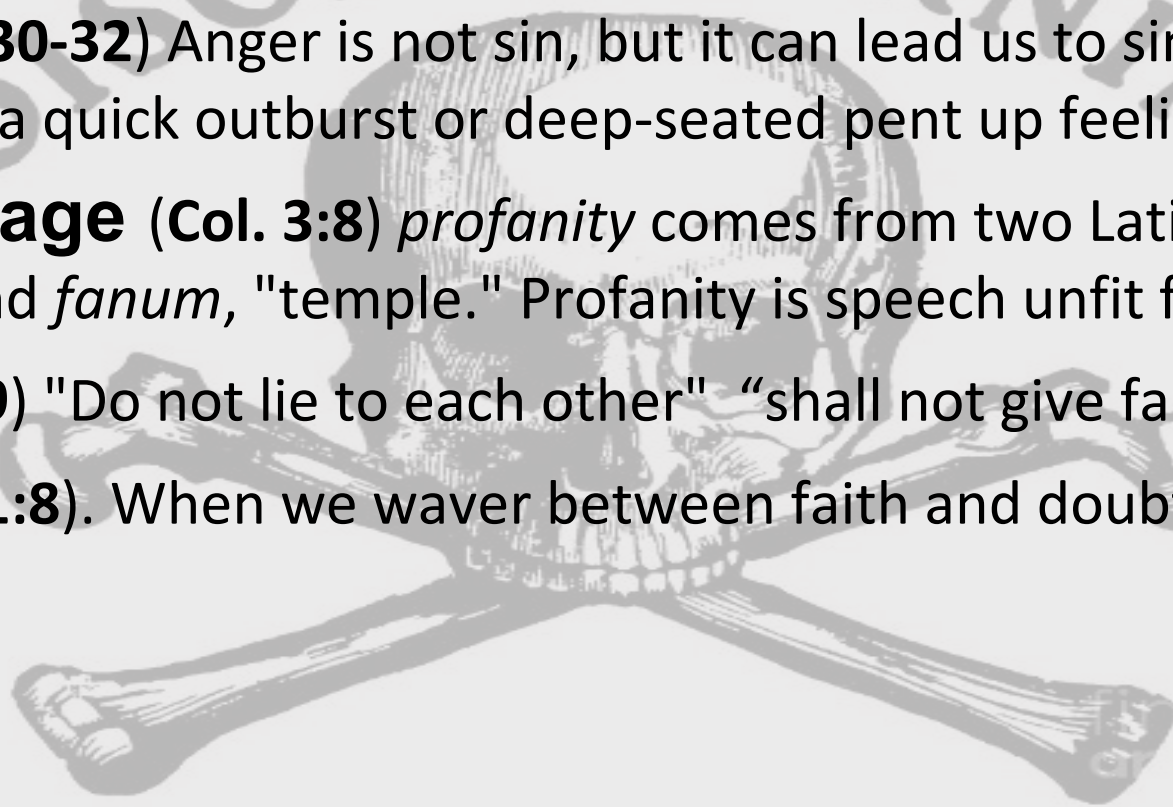


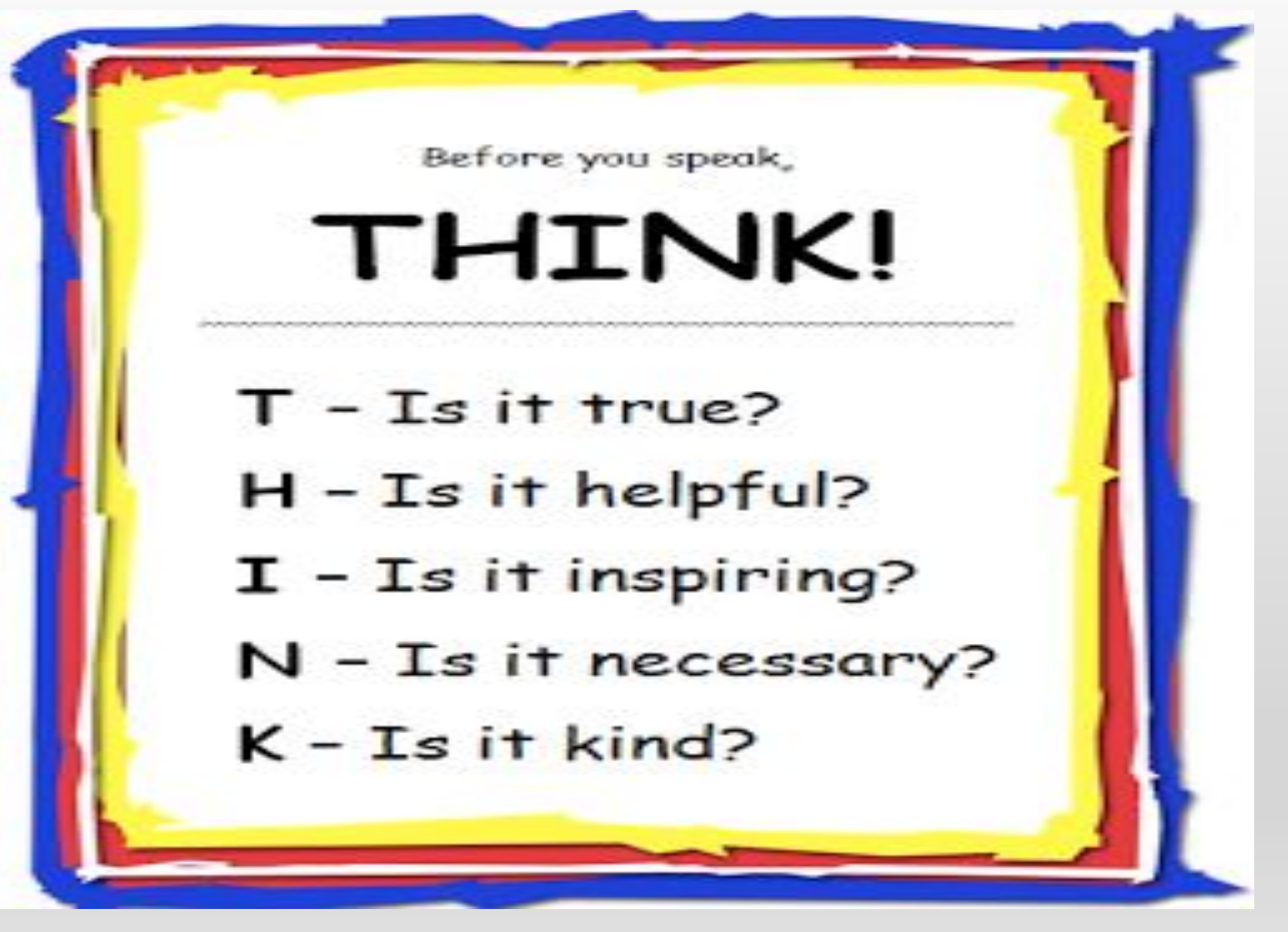
Bible Identifies Ten Negative Forms of Speech

- **Verbosity** (Prov. 10:19) = talking too much.
 - Everything can't be solved by more words.
- **Gossip** "*gossip betrays a confidence*" (11:13) / "*separates close friends*" (16:28).
 - "Without wood a fire goes out; without gossip a quarrel dies down" (26:20).
- **Slander** (James 4:11-12) GK=*slander* is *blasphemia*.
 - It can be directed toward God or others.
 - Devil is *diabolos* in Gk = "slanderer and false accuser" (Rev. 12:10).
 - "*The evil tongue slays three: the slanderer, the slandered, and the listener.*"
- **Judgment** (Matt. 7:1-2). we are not qualified to judge
 - We don't know all the facts of anyone's life and situation
 - We base our judgment on speculation, assumption, and often hearsay.
 - The law of God states every matter should be established by 2/3 witnesses.

Eliminate Negative, Dysfunctional Speech

- **Criticism** (Eph. 4:29) Unhealthy -criticism tears down instead of building up
- **Complaint** (James 5:9) Complaining can become a bad habit.
 - We are told to "do everything without complaining or arguing" (Phil. 2:14).
- **Anger** (Eph. 4:30-32) Anger is not sin, but it can lead us to sin. Angry words can be caused by either a quick outburst or deep-seated pent up feelings
- **Filthy Language** (Col. 3:8) *profanity* comes from two Latin words—*pro*, "in front of or outside of," and *fanum*, "temple." Profanity is speech unfit for a holy place.
- **Deceit** (Col. 3:9) "Do not lie to each other" "shall not give false testimony" (Ex. 20:16)
- **Doubt** (James 1:8). When we waver between faith and doubt create instability.





Before you speak,

THINK!

T - Is it true?

H - Is it helpful?

I - Is it inspiring?

N - Is it necessary?

K - Is it kind?

Express Positive, Constructive Speech

John 6:63 *"The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life"*

1 Cor 13:13 is Model to Learn How to Speak Words that Bring Life:

- **Words of Faith.** Communicate in ways that inspire Faith in God (**Matt. 17:20**)
 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (**Phil. 4:13**)
- **Words of Hope.** Communicate in ways that bring encouragement, enthusiasm, and optimism. Believe the best about situations and people. Hope means that things can change for the better, because "with God all things are possible" (**Matt. 19:26**).
- **Words of Love.** **The greatest of all virtues is love.**
- Paul describes love in this passage in 1 Corinthians, which also describes the kind of loving words we need to speak.
- Read chapter 13 and substitute the phrase "Love is..." with the phrase "Speak words that are..." (*"Speak words that are patient, kind, never boasting, never proud..."*).

Power of Vo



Power of Your Words

If you **are what you eat...**
...then what would you be
if you **ate your words?**

