

OPERATION

Allowing the Great Physician to Work in Our Life



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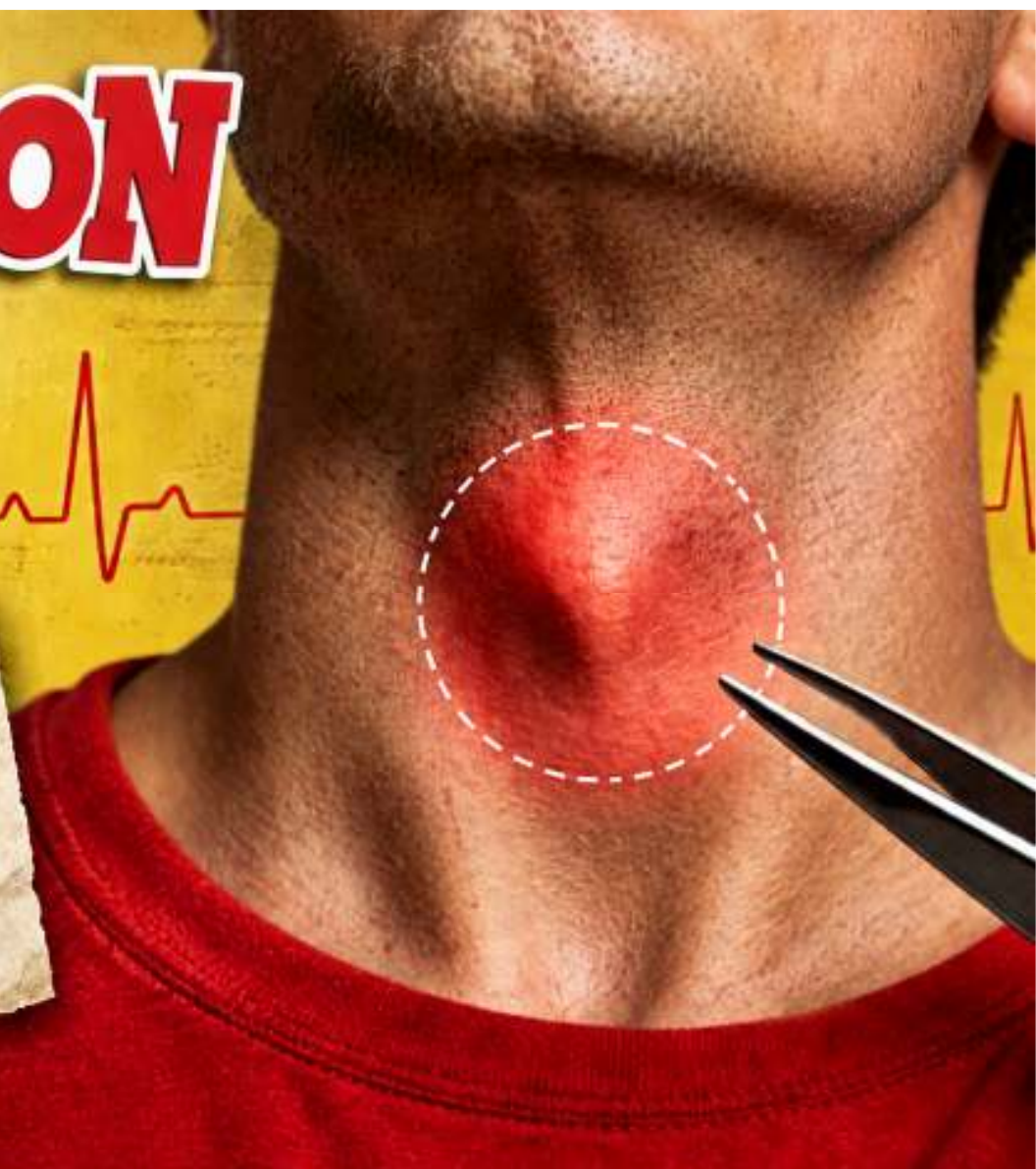
A SERMON SERIES

THIS WEEK:

THE ADAM'S APPLE

WHAT COMES OUT OF OUR MOUTHS
STARTS IN OUR HEARTS.

— MARK 2:17 —



Fire Hazzard

Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. 6 The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

James 3:5-6

That which we think

And that which we feel



The Tongue



For us to speak there are a lot of moving parts but the body part commonly associated with our speech in scripture is our tongue



The Tongue of Fire

The fuel is what we've stored in our minds and hearts, our thoughts, attitudes, assumptions, and beliefs. The spark is often our emotions and when those two come together, our voice provides the oxygen.

What goes into someone's mouth does not defile them, but what comes out of their mouth, that is what defiles them.

Matthew 15:11



The Tongue of Fire



The words are the symptom. The source is deeper

**That's why James says that we can use the same tongue
to praise God and destroy people made in God's image.
Something deeper is happening inside**

**Simply trying harder to watch our mouths isn't enough.
We have to treat the source**

**The Great Physician doesn't just want to change what
comes out of our mouths. He wants to heal what's
producing it**

Fixing Our Source



No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

Luke 6:43–45

Pressure doesn't produce what's inside you. Pressure exposes it

Fixing Our Source

**Jesus says what you store up in your heart
determines what comes out of your mouth**

Bitterness stored up becomes bitter speech

Hatred stored up becomes hateful words

Kindness stored up becomes life-giving language

**This directly connects us back to last week's thought of
changing what goes into my mind, the input will impact
what is produced by my mouth.**



Fixing Our Motivation



Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Ephesians 4:29–32

Fixing Our Motivation

He says our words can grieve the Holy Spirit

When we use words to tear down someone made in His image, we're not just hurting them, we're grieving the Spirit who lives in us

So, our words affect more than the person standing in front of us. They can either deepen our fellowship with God or dull our sensitivity to His Spirit.



Fixing Our Message



In *1 Timothy 5:13* Paul warns Timothy about people who become busybodies

The problem isn't simply that they're talking too much. Their words aren't carrying anything worthwhile

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

Colossians 3:16

Fixing Our Message

Peter gives us a remarkably simple picture of it in *Acts 10:36-40*

God sent Him

Jesus lived among us

He went around doing good and healing

He was crucified, and God raised Him from the dead



Fixing Our Message



Our speech is always doing something, it is shaping someone toward Christ or away from Him, toward wisdom or foolishness, toward healing or hurt

“Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.”

He's describing a life where our words are used intentionally to correct when correction is needed, to encourage when encouragement is needed, and to teach with patience and care

2 Timothy 4:2

Fixing Our Message

**That doesn't mean every word we
speak will make someone smile**

**Sometimes love has to correct.
Sometimes truth has to challenge**

**But every word should be spoken
with discipleship in mind**

**Because if the message of Christ really dwells in us richly,
eventually it's going to show up in what comes out of our
mouths**



Speak God's Message not Just Our Minds

God gave us the ability to speak

But He also cares deeply about how we use that gift

When someone damages their voice, surgery may be required but also, they are sent them to therapy

They relearn how to breathe, how to form words, how to use what they already have in a healthy way



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YOU DON'T NEED A
NEW VOICE,
YOU NEED A HEALED ONE.

