



**Ecclesiastes 10:12-13** Words from the mouth of the wise are gracious, but fools are consumed by their own lips. At the beginning their words are folly; at the end they are wicked madness—

**James 3:5b-6** Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. 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.

### COMMON WORD PROBLEMS

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Words

**Ecclesiastes 10:14a** ...fools multiply words.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Words

**Ecclesiastes 10:14b** No one knows what is coming—who can tell someone else what will happen after them?

**James 4:13-16** Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Words

#### EXAMPLE ONE:

**Ecclesiastes 10:15, 18** The toil of fools wears them; they do not know the way to town... Through laziness, the rafters sag; because of idle hands, the house leaks.

#### EXAMPLE TWO:

**Ecclesiastes 10:16-17** Woe to the land whose king was a servant and whose princes feast in the morning. Blessed is the land whose king is of noble birth and whose princes eat at a proper time—for strength and not for drunkenness.

#### EXAMPLE THREE:

**Ecclesiastes 10:19** A feast is made for laughter, wine makes life merry, and money is the answer for everything.

### SOLOMON'S ADVICE

**Ecclesiastes 10:20** Do not revile the king even in your thoughts, or curse the rich in your bedroom, because a bird in the sky may carry your words, and a bird on the wing may report what you say.

**Matthew 12:34-36** You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him. But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken.

### JESUS' SOLUTION

**Ephesians 4:17-32** ...you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God...

Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity...

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness...

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.

**Ecclesiastes 10:12** Words from the mouth of the wise are gracious.