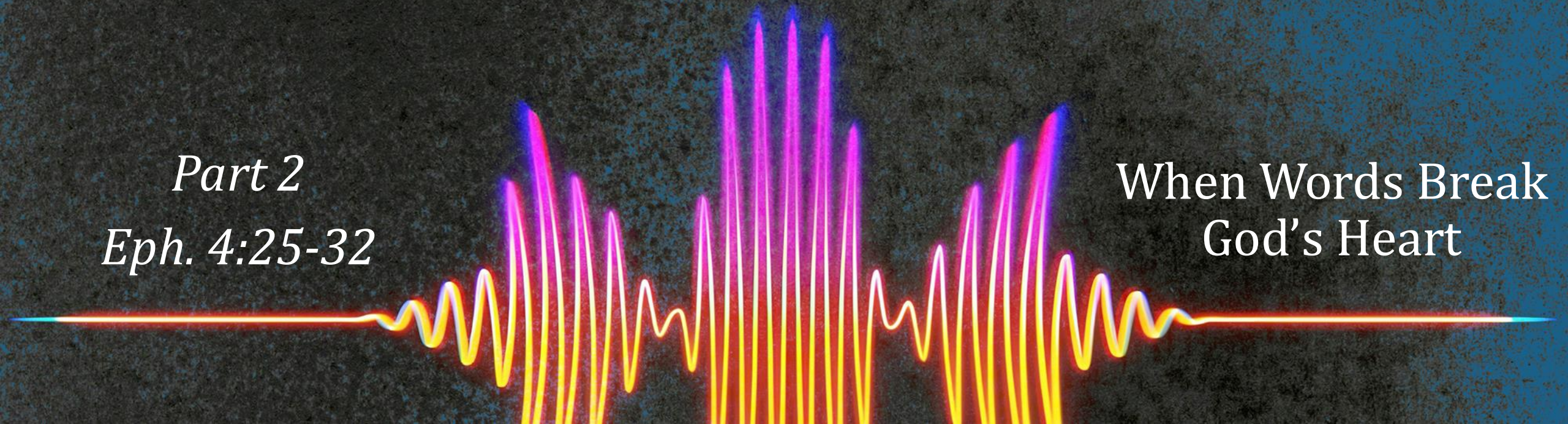


WORDS MATTER

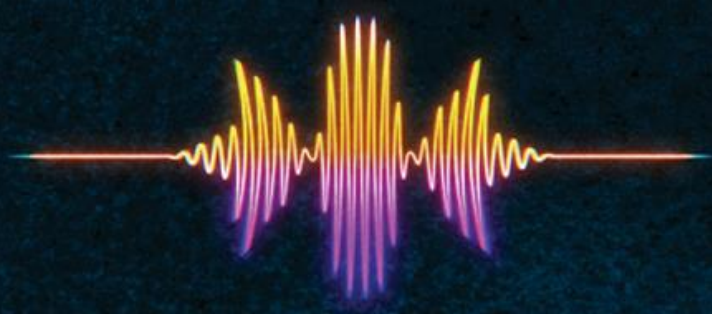
DEATH AND LIFE ARE IN THE POWER OF THE TONGUE... – PROVERBS 18:21

Part 2
Eph. 4:25-32

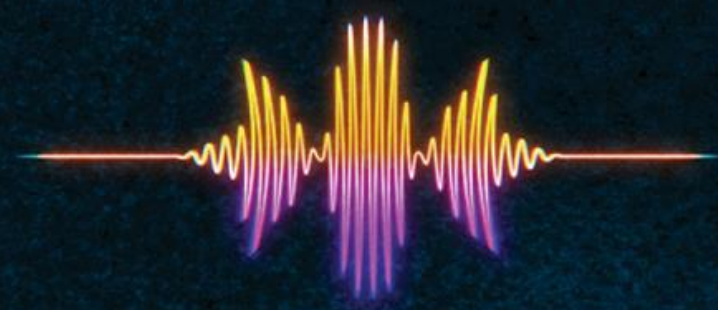
When Words Break
God's Heart



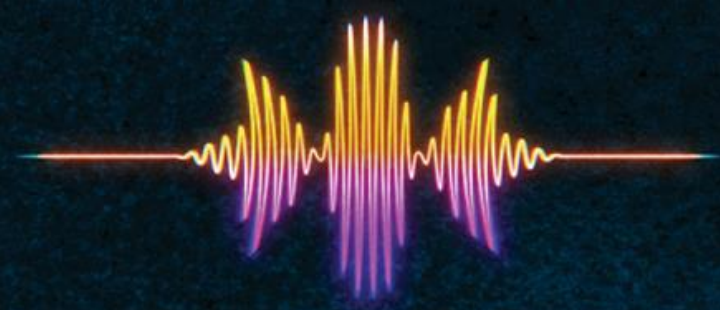
Take the Psalm 19:14 challenge!



“Let the **words** of my mouth and the meditation of my **heart** be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.”



**You are living in the world
your words are creating.**



Every conversation has a hidden audience.

The Holy Spirit hears every word.

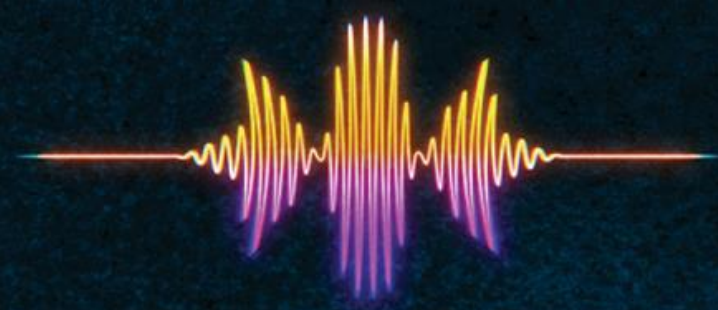
And some words break His heart.

4 Powerful Truths About the Words We Speak:



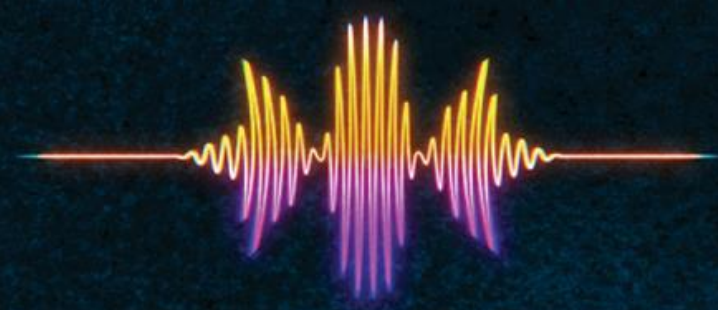
1. Words can damage people. (v.25-26)

- **Dishonest words (v.25)**
- **Angry words (v.26)**
- **Corrupt communications (v.29)**



Sapros

Rotten fruit; spoiled fish; decaying food



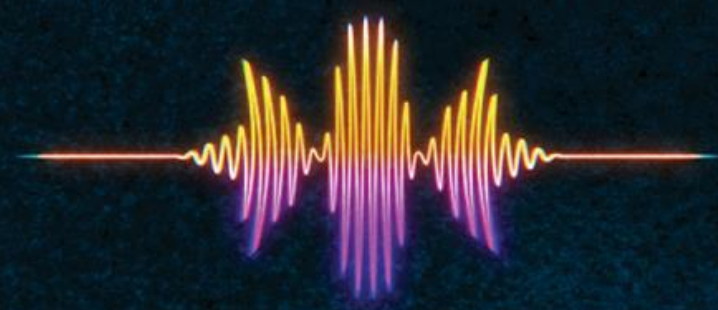
**“I will not hold him guiltless
that takes my name in vain.”**

(Exodus 20)

4 Powerful Truths About the Words We Speak:



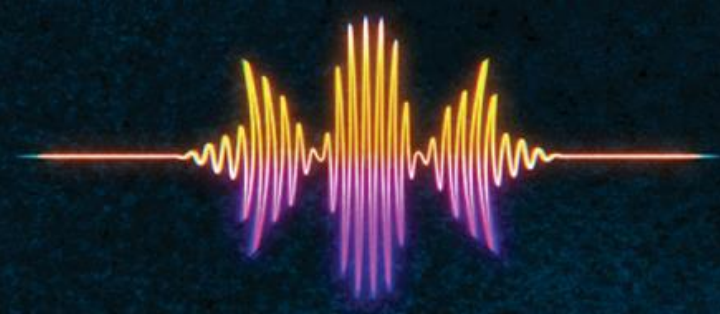
- 1. Words can damage people. (v.25-26)**
- 2. Words can deliver grace (v.29)**
- 3. Words can break God's heart (v.30)**



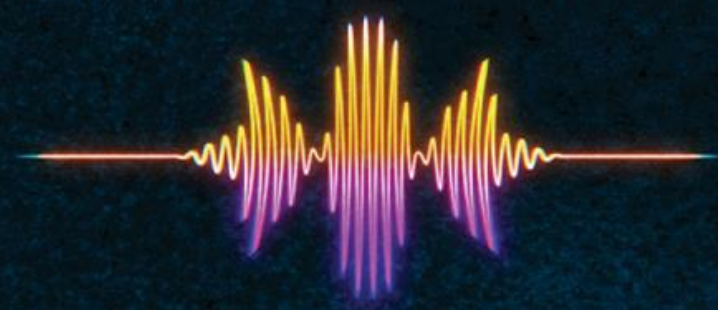
grieve

To cause sorrow; to bring pain; to distress; to wound emotionally

How Do We Become People Whose Words Carry Grace?

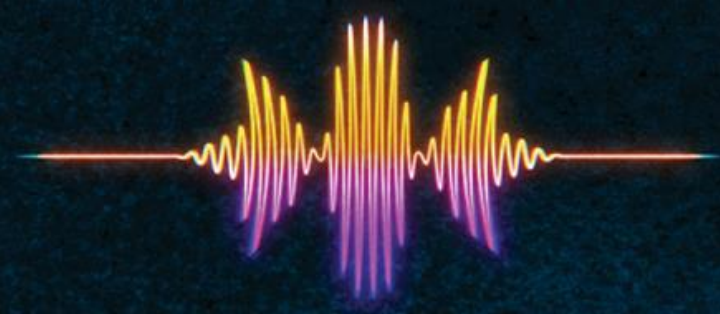


1. Slow down “be angry and sin not” (v.26)

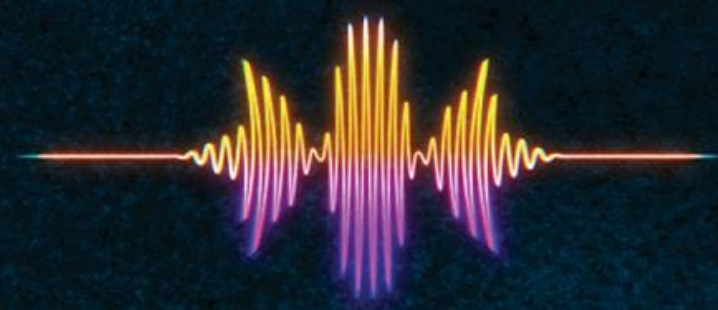


Maturity is often measured in the distance between feeling and speaking.

How Do We Become People Whose Words Carry Grace?

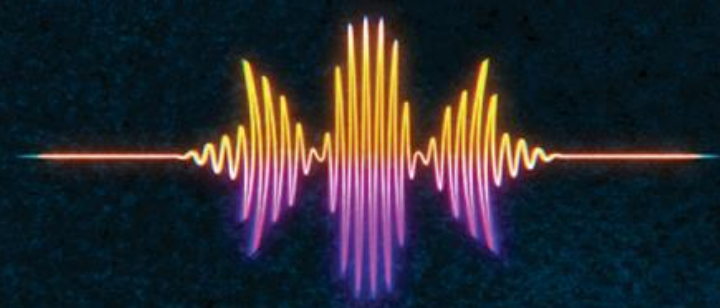


- 1. Slow down “be angry and sin not” (v.26)**
- 2. Pay attention to what fills your heart.**
- 3. Ask: Is it true? Is it necessary? Is it helpful?**
- 4. Speak to people, not about people.**



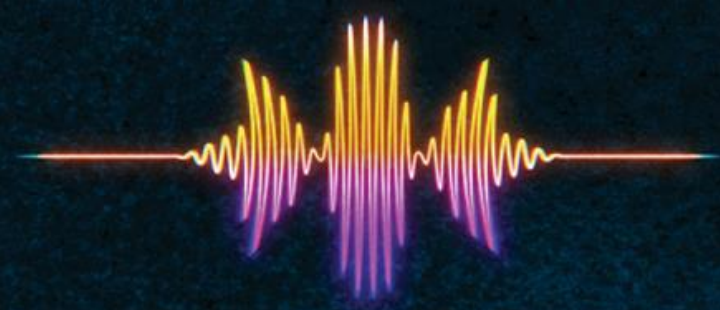
**Healthy people have hard
conversations. Immature people
have easy conversations with the
wrong people.**

How Do We Become People Whose Words Carry Grace?

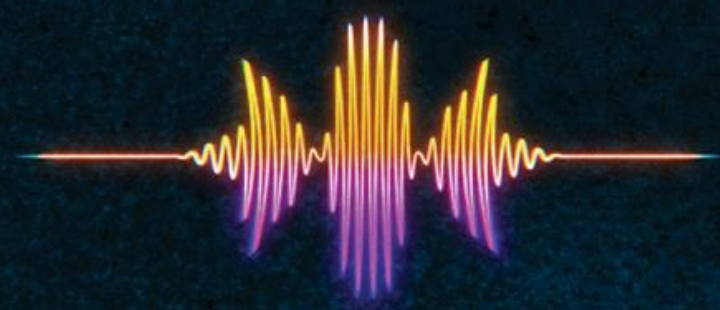


- 1. Slow down “be angry and sin not” (v.26)**
- 2. Pay attention to what fills your heart.**
- 3. Ask: Is it true? Is it necessary? Is it helpful?**
- 4. Speak to people, not about people.**
- 5. Remember who is listening (v.30)**

4 Powerful Truths About the Words We Speak:



- 1. Words can damage people. (v.25-26)**
- 2. Words can deliver grace (v.29)**
- 3. Words can break God's heart (v.30)**
- 4. People who receive grace should
distribute grace (v.31-32)**



- **Bitterness – poison, resentment**
- **Wrath – outburst, explosion**
- **Anger – smoldering hostility**
- **Clamor – shouting**
- **Evil speaking – slandering, assassination**
- **Malice – harming cruelty**

6 Diagnostic Questions to Determine My Grace Health . . .



Bitterness – *Is there someone whose name immediately stirs resentment, hurt, or a desire for payback?*

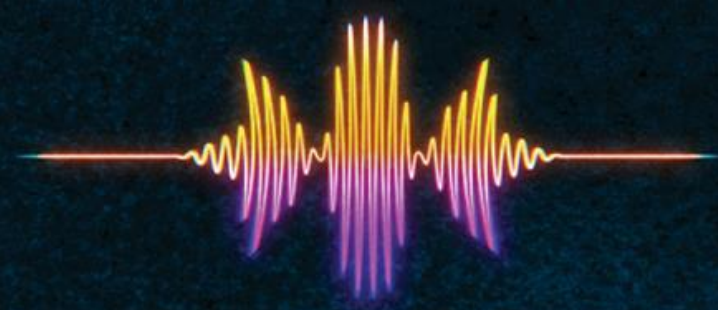
Wrath – *When things don't go my way, do I have a short fuse and intense reactions?*

Anger – *What recurring frustration reveals an idol, entitlement, or unmet demand in my heart?*

Clamor – *Am I stirring up conflict, raising the volume, or creating drama to get my way?*

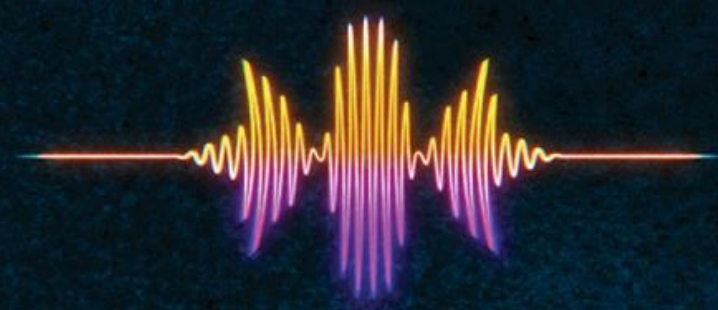
Evil Speaking – *Do my words tear down reputations, spread negativity, or diminish others? How do I talk about people when they aren't present?*

Malice – *Do I secretly want someone to suffer, fail, or get what they deserve?*



**For the next 7 days . . .
Intentionally speak life into
one person.**

Three questions:



- **What kind of atmosphere follows my words?**
- **Do my words sound more like grace or more like decay?**
- **If the Holy Spirit listened to every conversation this week—and He did—what did He hear?**