

Donna's Devotional

Words

A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.

Proverbs 25:11

We can all think of times that a word came at just the right time to encourage us. Someone said something that made us feel appreciated. Likewise, we can think of a time when someone said something, perhaps even in jest, that cut to the heart. Their words wounded us.

There are times when we need to be admonished, but that needs to be done in a tactful, empathic way. "Words fitly spoken." We do a friend no favor when we ignore a behavior that will bring harm to him or others. But, we need to be careful to say the right thing and to say it at the right time.

James 3:5 says "Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! Words, like a small spark, have the potential to set a forest on fire. In Arizona I saw a forest fire rage out of control. It started from a little spark and grew very quickly to major proportions—destroying homes, businesses and everything that was in its way.

There is great power in our words. We have the power to build up or to destroy. We have the power to glorify God or we can allow Satan to receive benefit from what we say.

I trust that our prayer and our desire will be one with David in Psalm 19:14: "Let the **words** of my mouth, and the meditations of my heart, be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer."