

## **True Disciple #24 Speaking Life**

Welcome to True Disciple message #24. This is Rod Nichols and I'm excited about this topic, as it's had a huge impact on my life and many others. I highly recommend that you stop the recording right now and ask the Lord to reveal how your words have impacted your life. Then listen to the message and take notes. I even recommend that you listen to it several times. You can always come back to it or listen to any of the other messages on the True Disciple site at [www.TrueDisciple.Info](http://www.TrueDisciple.Info) and click on the Weekly Message button under the current message on the front page.

Okay, let's get started with this powerful, life changing message I'm calling Speaking Life.

Proverbs 18:21 (NIV) reads, "The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit."

When I was a kid, there was an old proverb: "Sticks and stones will break your bones, but words will never hurt you." Speaking from experience, sticks and stones will break bones, that is true, but words do hurt.

In my childhood I was very skinny, so I heard all the skinny jokes and they hurt. I also started wearing glasses when I was 7 and heard all the four-eye comments and they hurt. Many times I was referred to as shy by my parents and teachers. The words spoken to me could very well have resulted in death, but instead, I chose not to let them control me and my future.

The skinny kid who wore glasses went on to become a decent football player and an all-city baseball player. The shy kid went on to write books and become a professional speaker who has spoken in front of groups as large as 5,000 and has delivered hundreds of messages and sermons.

Unfortunately, those words spoken to someone else, could have ruined their life. Words have power.

In the beginning, God spoke everything into existence (Genesis 1). Jesus is referred to as the Word (John 1). Both spoke words of life. However, we see the

Israelites, who have been freed from 400 years of slavery in Egypt, constantly speaking words of death (gripping and complaining) and instead of going into the promised land, they died in the wilderness.

Are you speaking words of life to yourself or are you speaking death?

Speaking words of life would be speaking the promises of God:

If you are feeling sick, “with his stripes we are healed” (Isaiah 53:5 KJV)

If you are struggling financially, “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:11 NIV)

Instead of talking about your sickness to God, speak to your sickness about God’s promises.

Instead of talking with God about your financial struggles, speak God’s promises to your finances.

Karen and I learned this principal back in the late 90’s and in the year 2000, when we realized that we were \$120,000 in debt, we began speaking God’s promises to that mound of debt. We commanded it to go into the sea (Mark 11:23) and five years later we were debt free and have remained so ever since.

Jesus gave you the power and authority to command sickness to leave, debt to go and finances to come, so begin using that authority!

Now, how about the way you’re speaking to other people – your spouse? Children? Boss? Co-workers? Friends? Are you speaking life or death to or about them?

If you’re constantly pointing out what they’re doing wrong and criticizing them, you’re speaking death.

If you’re praising them and showing respect for them as a child of God (all people are children of God), then you are speaking life.

Your words have power!

How about your life, are you speaking life or death? Are you speaking the promises of God over your life every day or are you griping and complaining like the Israelites did?

When Moses sent the 12 spies into the promised land, 10 of them came back with a bad report. In other words, they spoke death to the dream of entering the promised land. Two of the spies, Caleb and Joshua, gave good reports. Unfortunately, the Israelites listened to the bad report and began speaking death and they never entered the promised land. Only Caleb and Joshua were allowed to enter and that was 40 years later.

Speak God's promises over your life every day. Speak those promises over your job, boss, co-workers, spouse, children, neighborhood and neighbors, friends, church, pastors, church leaders and so on. Complaining leads to death. God's promises result in life.

Speak life!

That's it for message #24. I hope you took some notes. Your homework assignment is to search out some of the promises of God and begin speaking them over every part of your life. Do this for the rest of your life. It doesn't mean you won't experience any trouble or trials, but it does mean that it will be easier to go through the tough times. Get the message of speaking life and rest of your life will be much better.

Have a blessed week and I look forward to speaking with you again soon!