

A GUARD ON OUR LIPS

PART 1

What does God accomplish with speech flowing from a righteous heart?

GROUP 1:

Proverbs 10:11 _____

Proverbs 10:21 _____

Proverbs 12:18 _____

GROUP 2:

Proverbs 10:31 _____

Proverbs 10:32 _____

Proverbs 11:11 _____

GROUP 3:

Proverbs 11:9, 13:3, 13:14, 14:3 _____

Proverbs 11:13 _____

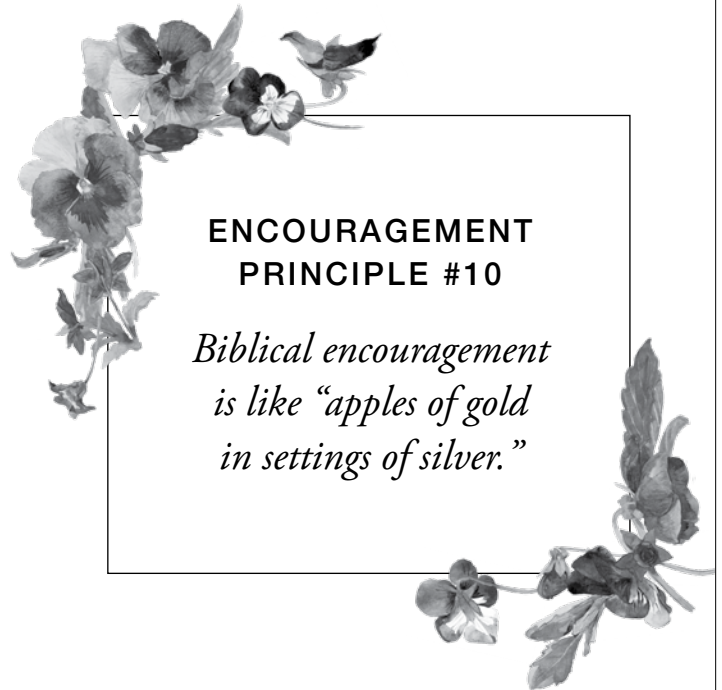
GROUP 4:

Proverbs 12:14 _____

Proverbs 15:7 _____

PART 2

A friend comes to you for counsel and says that God is convicting her that she is the woman in Proverbs 27:15–16 (NIV), which says, “A quarrelsome wife is like a constant dripping on a rainy day; restraining her is like restraining the wind or grasping oil with the hand.” She realizes that only she can change her complaining spirit as she submits to the Holy Spirit’s conviction. She asks you to help her become a woman whose words are like “apples of gold in settings of silver.” Use the following scriptures to outline your response to her.



GROUP 1: Read James 3. What does James say about the tongue?

GROUP 2: Read Matthew 12:34–37, John 8:44, and James 4:1–3. What determines the words that come out of our mouths?

GROUP 3: Read James 1:22–25, Philippians 2:12–13. How do these passages give us hope in controlling our tongues?

GROUP 4: Read 2 Timothy 2:15 and 3:16–17. What is the key to a righteous heart? What actions should be incorporated into our lifestyles in order to bring about change in our speech?

PART 3: Just do it!

Begin by praying for God to show you what change He wants you to make in order to speak words that are “apples of gold in settings of silver.” Read the scriptures in Chapter 10 or work through scriptures about the tongue in your Bible concordance. Keep reading until He speaks to you. Write out what action you will take this week and share it with the group.

ASSIGNMENT FOR NEXT WEEK

- Watch Chapter 11 Encouragement Stories video at www.treasuresofencouragement.org.
- Read and complete Chapter 11 and Getting Focused and Living Focused questions, making notes of quotes and scriptures that are especially meaningful. Come prepared to share what action you took this week in response to Part 3, Chapter 10 Handout.
- Use the following to write a summary of this lesson:
 - Write a summary statement of Chapter 11.
 - List a few things from the chapter that were helpful to you.
 - How did this chapter change or inform your thinking about biblical encouragement?
 - Write a prayer based on some of the scriptures in this chapter.
 - How would you like for others to pray for you as you seek to apply the scriptures in this chapter to your life?
- Pray with your prayer partner.
- Complete Part 3 on this handout if not done in small group.
- Personalize the Praying Scripture passage for someone in your Village and continue journaling.

- Review Hebrews 10:19–24. Memorize verse 25.
- **Bonus:** Listen to the suggested Chapter 10 Help & Hope podcast at www.treasuresofencouragement.org:



- *Hope for the Parents of a Prodigal Child — A Conversation with Barbara Juliani*
- *Doing Life with Your Adult Children — A Conversation with Jim Burns*



PRAYING SCRIPTURE

*Let the words of my mouth and
the meditation of my heart be
acceptable in your sight, O LORD,
my rock and my redeemer.*

PSALM 19:14

