

Grace and Faith VII		
Welcome It is a pleasure to have you with us this hour. Our endeavor is to worship God in Spirit and in Truth by adhering to the scriptures in all that we do and teach.		
If you desire to have a private Bible Study at your convenience, let us know.		
Website	Meeting Location	ASSEMBLIES SUNDAY:
Phone		A.M P.M Bible Study:
Volume IV		0014

#### Influence

Directing our attention to the subject of influence we should always be aware of the fact that what we say and do will influence those around us. The apostle Paul encouraged the brethren in Corinth with these words: "Be ye imitators of me, even as I also am of Christ" (1 Corinthians 11:1). In the same book, he said, "Be not deceived: Evil companionships corrupt good morals" (15:33).

With these two passages in mind, we can readily see that what we say and do will be imitated by someone, or we will be imitating someone. One good example of this is with children. If you want to know what the parents think, and what they say behind closed doors, just listen to their children. Children like to imitate their parents, and adults like to imitate those they hold in high esteem. Each day we have the opportunity to be a positive influence in someone's life, and a good way to do so is by watching what we say. (Continued Pg. 2)

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In the writing of James, we are told, "For in many things we all stumble. If any stumbleth not in word, the same is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body also" (3:2). We are aware that the term "perfect" does not have reference to sinlessness, but rather a man who is so completely in control of his tongue that he will be able to control his whole body also, and in so doing, will be a man worthy of imitating, and thus a positive influence on those about him or her.

Such being the case, approach your conversations with the understanding that the seeds you plant, via your speech, will either give life or death to the hearer. Solomon put it this way: "Death and life are in the power of the tongue; And they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof" (Proverbs 18:21), and again, "Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles" (Proverbs 21:23).

So, as you start your day, and throughout the day, keep in mind that what you say, and what you do is being observed by someone: be a godly influence on them.

Remember words of the apostle Peter, who said, "For, he that would love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: and let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace, and pursue it" (1 Peter 3:10-11). Ross Triplett, Sr.

# Solomon Says

He that is stedfast in righteousness shall attain unto life; And he that pursueth evil doeth it to his own death.

Proverbs 11:19

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### I. There is Evil in the World:

- A. Gen. 2:9; Heb. 5:14; Isa. 5:18-23 Reality
- B. Isa. 45:7 Evil for War
- C. Deut. 30:15 Life & Good, Death & Evil
- D. Psa. 78:49 Band of angels of evil

## II. Every Action has a Reaction:

- A. Life is comprised of choices:
  - 1. Josh. 24:14-15 Choose
  - 2. 1 Kgs. 18:21-22 If...follow him
- B. Cause motivates action:
  - 1. Jer. 41:2 Gedaliah killed
  - 2. Jer. 41:17-18 The people feared.
- C. Reaction to Circumstance:
  - 1. Jer. 42:2-4 Requested Jeremiah
  - 2. Jer. 42:6, 20 Affirmed "we will do"
- D. Jer. 42:7-17 Consequence
- E. Reaction to every Action:
  - 1. Jer. 43:1-2 Accept or Reject the messenger
  - 2. Jer. 43:4, 7 Accept or Reject the message
- F. Examples of Cause and Effect:
  - 1. Jesus:
    - a. 1 Tim. 1:15 Jesus saves
    - b. Mk. 14:1 Sought to deliver
    - c. Mk. 15:10 Delivered up
    - d. Jn. 19:1-30 Jesus crucified
  - 2. Disciples: Acts 2:1-36, 37-38, 40-41
  - 3. All mankind:
    - a. Isa. 59:1-2 Sin separates
    - b. Rom. 1:18; Col. 3:5-6; 2 Pet. 3:7 – Destruction on ungodly
    - c. Lk. 19:10; Jn. 3:16, 36; Heb. 5:9; Rom. 5:6-11 Salvation