

Speak Life

Description

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Romans 10:1-13

As a preacher and writer, I am very sensitive to the power of words. When I began preaching, I scrutinized every word of my message. The thought that people trusted me to interpret God's word accurately was an overwhelming responsibility. Considering all the elements involved in communication, sometimes I wonder how we communicate at all! Tone of voice, gestures, emotion, eye contact, and even our own perspective can influence how others understand us.

Jesus said in Matthew 12:33-37 that our words stem from the condition of our heart. We quickly learn what a person is made of by simply letting them speak. In the same way, people can see straight to our hearts through our words and actions. This heart-mouth connection is vital for being in a right relationship with Christ.

Paul explains, "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart . . . If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (Romans 10:8b-9)."•

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