

Solving Word Problems — Part 3: Gotta Work At It

Sunday, February 23, 2020

The words we choose and use can be destructive, but they also have the power to build others up. What we say can impact the quality, and even the direction, of the lives of the people around us. How can we use this power for good?

Read Ephesians 4:17-32

- What are some areas of “futility of thinking” people tend to hold on to?
- How would you describe the difference between using ignorance as an insult from it being used to explain why people don’t know what they don’t know?
- In what ways does an “everyone for themselves” belief system lead to a compromised moral baseline (or absence of one altogether)?
- Would you agree that following Jesus is not a self-serving but others-serving approach to life? Why or why not?
- How can taking off former unhealthy attitudes and actions be like taking off a heavy coat and setting it aside?
- How can we speak truthfully to one another while still allowing God’s grace to permeate our conversations?
- What would you describe as “unwholesome talk”? What are some ways unwholesome talk causes word problems?
- How would you describe words and conversations that build others up? What are some ways words can be used to solve and maybe even avoid word problems?
- How do things like bitterness, anger, slander and malice inhibit us from using words in positive ways?
- In what ways can forgiveness be the antidote to the things that hold us back from solving and avoiding word problems?
- What is one step you can take to work on choosing and using words to encourage and build up others?