

## Speech Boundaries Ephesians 4:29 and Various Passages

**Truth 1:** We cannot consistently \_\_\_\_\_ grace until we've \_\_\_\_\_ grace.

**Truth 2:** Our words are not morally \_\_\_\_\_; they either lead towards \_\_\_\_\_ or edification.

Paul contrasts 2 types of words:

_____ Words	_____ Words
Rotten (spoiled fruit; rotten fish)	Edifying (helping others grow)
Foul, decaying, useless	Pleasant, uplifting, helpful
Hurt the hearer	Heal the hearer
Are like poison	Are like medicine
We should never use them	We should always use them
Part of the old self	Part of the new self

**Truth 3:** Our words should be \_\_\_\_\_, appropriate and \_\_\_\_\_.

Three diagnostic questions before we speak:

1. Is what I'm about to say \_\_\_\_\_?
2. Is it \_\_\_\_\_ and edifying for this person and in this \_\_\_\_\_?
3. Will my words \_\_\_\_\_ or please the Spirit who dwells in me?

If "no" to any of these, Scripture would urge either silence or a different way of saying it.

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As Christians, we should cultivate godly characteristics.

Be kind and compassionate to one another.

Fit the godly characteristics into the crossword on the right and the ungodly characteristics into the crossword on the left.

ANGER BITTERNESS BRAWLING COMPASSION FALSEHOOD  
 FORGIVENESS HELPFUL ~~WORDS~~ KINDNESS LOVE MALICE  
 RAGE SHARING STEALING UNWHOLESOME ~~TALK~~ WORK

A crossword puzzle grid with the word 'TALK' filled in vertically. The word 'WORDS' is filled in horizontally at the top. The grid is surrounded by six illustrations: a girl tripping a boy, a boy playing a piano, a boy with a ball, a boy with a skateboard, a boy with a cane, and a boy with a girl.

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