

Wisdom should be a critical component of godly speech.

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### Bear One Another's Burdens

#### Bear Your Own Burden

*"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. (3) For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. (4) But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. (5) For every man shall bear his own burden."* (Galatians 6:2-5)

So, is this a contradiction in the Bible?  
**Absolutely not!**

First, the word "burden" in this passage is translated from two different Greek words. Bearing one another's burdens is from the word "báros" and is defined as heaviness, weight, or trouble.

The second Greek word is "phortion," meaning "a task or service." Each of us is to bear our own burden (TASK) from the Lord. No one can do for us what God has ordained for us to do.

We are to help others with the weights of life, and this is where "counseling" and communication may be involved. The area of helping bear each other's burdens is where we need to guard our words.

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Take It To The Lord In Prayer

"According as his divine power hath given unto

us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:" (2 Peter 1:3)

Before running to others with your problems, before wallowing in self-pity, before giving up,

TAKE IT TO THE LORD!

Scripture states that God has already given us everything necessary to live godly lives. God's Word makes it abundantly clear that His provision is available.

Why run to others who can, at best, go with you to God, if you have not already gone to God for yourself?

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#### Conclusion:

There are definitely times when we need others to help us. This is evident throughout the Scriptures, particularly in the example that we are the "body of Christ."

Having said that, we must make sure that we don't replace God and His provision with other people. That is not fair to the other people, and it exemplifies a lack of trust in God.

*"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 4:19)

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Knowing when to speak and when to remain silent. Knowing what to talk about and what not to discuss. Knowing to whom we should say something and to whom we should say nothing. These are all valuable considerations that can enhance or destroy our lives and the lives of others.

We must carefully weigh our conversations with the ultimate goal of glorifying Jesus.

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#### Slow To Speak

*"Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, **slow to speak**, slow to wrath:"* (James 1:19)

This advice should be treasured and diligently adhered to. Believers should seek to harken attentively to what we hear, but we should be cautious and intentional in what we say.

Prayerful consideration of our words and seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit leads to the most rewarding fellowship amongst the brethren and the most effective witness to the unsaved.

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The Power Of Speech

*"Death and life are in the **power of the tongue...**"* (Proverbs 18:21)

COVER YOUR MOUTH

The power of dynamite can be unleashed for boundless good or horrific destruction. An often overlooked and downplayed fact is the **dynamite housed in our communications**.

Proverbs 18:21 tells us that what we say can produce such opposite results as **LIFE or DEATH**.

In the light of this explosive power, we must again ponder the “weight of our words.” Great diligence is needed to unleash this power in life-giving ways.

A life-giving example might be, “The Holy Spirit living in you will lead you to victory in your situations of living.”

A death-bringing example may be, “Your life is such a mess, it is nearly hopeless.”

Understanding the power our words possess goes a long way in helping us to harness and properly use our speech for life.
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## Counseling

*“Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.”*  
(Proverbs 11:14)

The arena of Christian Counseling is an area where godly wisdom is necessary. The insight of God is needed from both parties. The one seeking counseling must **first** trust God for their answer and be led by God to a trustworthy counselor. The counselor must be in tune with the Holy Spirit (the true Counselor) and not rely on their training or education. A deep and intimate knowledge of Scripture must be the

counselor’s source of understanding.

Christian counseling can be a great blessing or a perilous interaction. All insights must come from God and be in alignment with His Word.  
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They Can’t Handle It

Cover your mouth! When sharing personal facts with others, remember, **THEY CAN’T HANDLE IT!** Only God is big enough to deal with our problems.

Whatever you speak can NEVER be UNHEARD by the hearer!

What if you share an alarming issue from your life, and later, God gives you a great victory over that thing? What if the person you sought counsel from is no longer a trusted confidant? Will the issue you spoke of in the past now become a snare in your life? Could the issue God gave you victory over still be an ongoing problem, but in a different way?

These considerations are especially true if you are talking about someone else (possibly gossiping.) Anything we say to someone about someone else will leave an indelible memory in the mind of the hearer. As much as we may try to forget or ignore what was told to us, it is unlikely that we will ever entirely forget what was said.

COVER YOUR MOUTH! Unless you are absolutely sure God wants the thing spoken.
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## An Unruly Evil

*“But the tongue can no man tame; it is an **unruly evil, full of deadly poison.**”* (James 3:8)

No one can tame their tongue! That is Scripture! Only with the Holy Ghost’s help and restraint can we

moderate our speech.

Remember, James **wrote this to believers!** Our tongues are **full of deadly poison**.

We have been warned and must communicate soberly. The following saying should be our regular practice:

**Engage God in prayer  
before engaging our mouths in folly.**  
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Wise As Serpents

*“Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore **wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.**”* (Matthew 10:16)

As followers of Jesus, we should have wisdom as a part of our lives. Jesus tells us in this passage that we are to be wise but harmless in exercising our wisdom.

Such wisdom should assuredly be deployed in what we speak of. Especially in light of what Jesus warns us of just a few verses later. We see the following in verse 21...

“And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death.” (Matthew 10:21)

Our Messiah foretells betrayal! Of course, Jesus would know about betrayal. One of the people He called “friend” betrayed Him for thirty pieces of silver (Judas.)