

# Words Are Powerful

**MEMORY VERSE:**

**Ephesians 4:29**, *“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up..” (NIV)*

**TAKE HOME POINT:**

Speak words that build people up.

**TO THE TEACHER:**

There are three points in this lesson:

1. Words are powerful.
2. The love of God never participates in gossip.
3. Speak words of love.

**Words are powerful.** (Read James, chapter three.) Words are like tools. We can use our words to destroy people or we can use our words to build people up. If someone has spoken mean words that have hurt you, you may be tempted to say mean things back to them. You may want to punish them with your words. Not only does God want us to forgive people that hurt us, He wants us to say nice things back to them. This is really hard to do, but it is what God does for us and we have the Agape kind of love inside of us.

**The love of God never participates in gossip.** Never talk bad about somebody behind their back. This grieves the Holy Spirit, because they are His kids too. (Ephesians 4:30) If someone has hurt you, it is good to talk with them to resolve the conflict, but it is never right to talk about someone behind their back.

**Speak words of love.** You can do this. Choose to say words that build people up, especially if you are tempted not to. You can always find something nice to say about somebody. The Bible says that pleasant words are like a honeycomb. This is one of the simplest ways to walk in love. Say nice things. Speak words of love.



SUPERCHURCH 2.0



**OBJECT LESSON**

***Sticks & Stones***

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:**

Ephesians 4:29

**TAKE HOME POINT:**

Do not use your words to put people down. Use your words to build people up.

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

Large box of Nerds candy

**SPECIAL NOTES:**

- Buy enough Nerds candy boxes to hand out to the kids after class.

**OBJECT LESSON APPLICATION:**

(Hold up a box of Nerds in your hand. While you are talking open the box and hand out some Nerds.)

When I was a kid there was a saying, "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me." We would say this as a form of defense when another kid said something mean to us. Kids can be pretty mean sometimes. They can say some really mean things. Words like, "You're ugly," "You're stupid," "You're a geek," "You're a nerd."

Sometimes kids will label you according to the clique you are in. We had the jocks, the nerds and the freaks. These were all negative words designed to put people down. God tells us to only use our words to build people up. It is really easy to join in with the mean kids and put other kids down, but as Christians we should be different. Just because it seems like everybody is doing it, it doesn't mean that we should do it too.

When I said the rhyme, "Sticks and stones will break my bones, but words will never hurt me," it was always in defense of something mean that someone just said to me. The truth is words do hurt. It grieves the Holy Spirit when we say words that put other kids down, because they are God's kids too.

Don't join in with the crowd. When you hear kids call other kids names like "Nerds" (hold up the box of Nerds) choose to say kind words. Think of something nice to say to the kid that everybody is picking on and share your Nerds with him like I am sharing my Nerds with you.