

## 2. BUILDING BRIDGES WITH YOUR WORDS

### A. YOU BUILD WITH YOUR WORDS

Matthew 5:37

37 Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No!'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

*There are many ways to erode trust*

#### 1. Lies.

Eph 1:6

6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us **accepted** in the Beloved.  
NKJV

#### 2. Flattery.

Psalms 12:3

3 May the LORD cut off all flattering lips and every boastful tongue.

### 3. Broken .

Psalms 15:4b ... who keeps his oath even when it **hurts**,

Ps 15:4b ...He always does what he promises, no matter how much it may **cost**. (TEV)

Ps 15:4b ...keeps a promise even if it **ruins him**, (TLB)

#### 4. Silence.

### B. YOU GUARD YOUR .

Proverbs 4:23

23 Above all else, **guard** your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

Mark 7:15 "Your souls aren't harmed by what you eat but by what you think and say."

Matt 12:33-35

33 "A tree is **identified** by its **fruit**. A tree from a select variety produces good fruit; poor varieties don't. 34 You brood of snakes! How could evil men like you speak what is good and right? For a man's **heart determines his speech**. 35 A good man's speech **reveals** the rich treasures within him. An evil-hearted man is filled with venom, and his speech reveals it. TLB

Matt 12:33

Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree **corrupt**, and his fruit **corrupt**: for the tree is known by his fruit. KJV

Corrupt – means rotten, worthless, bad

Matt 12:33 ...for the tree is known and recognized and judged by its **fruit**. (AMP)

Matt 12:33 ...A tree is **identified** by its fruit... (NLT)

Matt. 12:33 ...A tree is known by the kind of fruit it **bears**. (TEV)

v.34 ...For the mouth **speaks out** of that which **fills** the heart. NAS

v.34 ...For whatever is in your heart **determines** what you say. (NLT)

34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the **abundance of the heart** the mouth speaketh. KJV

Evil- means hurtful, vicious, grievous, wicked, harm

Abundance- means over and above, superabundance

Matt 12:35 A good man's speech **reveals** the rich **treasures** within him. An evil-hearted man is filled with venom, and his speech reveals it TLB

Treasure – means deposit, wealth, conceive, purpose, set, commit

When we speak the truth in love, we will know when to speak, what to speak and how to speak.

### C. YOU USE YOUR .

### D. YOU EMPOWER YOUR .

Proverbs 18:21

21 The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Proverbs 17:27

27 A man of knowledge uses words with restraint, and a man of understanding is even-tempered.

Eph 4:29-31 Let no **corrupt** communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of **edifying**, that it may **minister grace** unto the hearers. 30 And **grieve** not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: KJV

**Corrupt**-means rotten, wicked, bad

**edifying** -means building a house

**minister**- means deliver, commit, give, have power, offer

**grace** -means benefit, favours, pleasure

**Grieve**-means to sorrow, distress, heaviness, to be sad

### 1. I can decide to be .

Proverbs 24:26

26 An honest answer is like a kiss on the lips.

Proverbs 27:6

6 Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.

Ephesians 4:15

15 Instead, **speaking the truth in love**, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.

Proverbs 16:23

23 A wise man's heart guides his mouth, and his lips promote instruction.

Proverbs 21:23

23 He who guards his mouth and his tongue keeps himself from calamity.

James 5:14-16

14 Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. 16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

### 2. I can decide to use .

Luke 5:13 "Jesus reached out and touched the man and He said, 'Of course I will. Be healed.'" Then "... and the leprosy left him immediately."

### 3. Ask .

Mark 8:29

29 "What about you?" he asked them. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Messiah." TEV

### 4. Use or .

John 3: 3 "Jesus replied, 'With all the earnestness I possess I tell you this. Unless you are born again, you can never get into the kingdom of God.'"