

How a Believer Is to Speak

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I must speak truth (Eph 4:25):

- Lay aside falsehood (v. 25a).
- Speak truth as you would to yourself (v. 25b).

I must avoid unrighteous anger (Eph 4:26):

- Engage only in righteous anger.
- Do not sin while in your anger.
- Do not let anger fester.

I must please the Spirit with my speech (Eph 4:29-32):

- Do not speak unwholesome words (v. 29a).
- Speak words that are edifying (v. 29b).
- Speak according to the need of the moment (v. 29c).
- Speak grace to those who hear (v. 29d).
- Remember that the Spirit hears everything you say (v. 30).
- Put away bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, slander, and malice (v. 31).
- Be kind (v. 32a).
- Be tender-hearted (v. 32b).
- Be forgiving (v. 32c).
- Treat others as Christ has treated you (v. 32d).

I must speak with purpose (Tit 3:8-10):

- Speak scriptural truth with confidence (v. 8a).
- Exhort people towards good deeds (v. 8b).
- Speak what is profitable for others (v. 8c).
- Do not engage in foolish controversies, strife, and disputes (v. 9a).
- Avoid that which is unprofitable and worthless (v. 9b).
- Do not be factious (v. 10).

I must not be quarrelsome (2 Tim 2:23-26):

- Refuse those things that lead to quarrels (v. 23).
- Be kind to all (v. 24a).
- Be patient when wronged (v. 24b).
- Correct others with gentleness (v. 25a).
- Remember that only God (and not you) can bring people to their senses (vv. 25b-26).

I must be humble and teachable (Jas 1:19):

- Be quick to listen.
- Be slow to speak.
- Be slow to anger.

I must exemplify the fruit of the Spirit in my speech (Gal 5:22-23):

- Speak with love (v. 22a).
- Be patient and kind (v. 22b).
- Be gentle and self-controlled (v. 23).

I must maintain biblical unity with my speech (Eph 4:2-3):

- Be humble (v. 2a).
- Be gentle (v. 2b).
- Be patient (v. 2c).
- Be biblically tolerant in love (v. 2c).
- Diligently preserve the unity of the Spirit in peace (v. 3).

Miscellaneous:

- Speak sound doctrine (Tit 2:1).
- Speak, exhort, and reprove based on what Scripture says (Tit 2:15).