

Speaker: Mrs. Becky Schlagel

Becky Schlagel grew up in rural Minnesota, where she raised sheep for over ten years. She came to know the Lord Jesus Christ personally at age 14. She attended North Dakota State University and received a Bachelor of Science degree in home economics education. She taught Home Economics for three years in high Minnesota schools in and Connecticut.



Becky married David in 1981. They have 6 children. Sarah, Mark,

Hannah, and Paul are married, while Esther and Joanna still live at home. In May of 2017, Becky and David became first-time grandparents!

Because of her husband's naval career and the Lord's leading in ministry opportunities, they have lived in many different locations in the US. Their family was part of Mount Calvary Baptist Church from 1993-1995 while David was a graduate student at Bob Jones University. They have been in full-time ministry for the past 22 years. Currently David is the senior pastor at Marquette Manor Baptist Church near Chicago. Becky works with the women's ministries at Marquette, and seeks to minister to people within and outside of the church. Over the years, God has allowed Becky the privilege of teaching others from the Word of God. Her passion is to encourage others to know the Lord, love His Word, and live a life worthy of His name.

Schedule

| Friday, April 6 |
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| • 6:30 – 7:00 |
| • 7:00 – 8:30 Session I |
| • 8:30 – 9:30 Dessert Fellowship (Courtyard) |
| Saturday, April 7 |
| • 8:30 – 9:30Continental Breakfast Fellowship (Courtyard) |
| • 9:30 – 11:00 Session II |
| • 11:00 – 11:20 Break |
| • 11:20 – 12:45 Session III |
| • 12:45 – 2:30 <i>Say It Like You Mean It</i> Lunch Workshops |
| Rm 104 Music Suite Communicating with husbands & children |
| Led by Pam Schaedel |
| Rm 110 Middle Level Communicating with colleagues & friends |
| Led by Betty & Rachel Dahlhausen |
| Rm 101 next to elevator Spanish ladies |
| Led by Pam Freeman |
| Canopy Entrance Lower LobbyTeens |
| Led by Michelle Jones |
| • 2:30 – 2:50 Break |
| • 2:50 – 4:30 |

Note: the main sessions will meet in the auditorium.

Session 1: Why Is There an Ongoing War for Your Words?

| I. | A | per | fect, peaceful paradise where all is good | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| | (G | ene | esis 1-2) | | | |
| | A. | Th | e first One to speak was | | | |
| | | "And God said" (13 times) | | | | |
| | | 1. | God's words revealed | | | |
| | | 2. | God's words revealed His | | | |
| | | | God can be known by mankind because He is a God who | | | |
| | В. | Go | od spoke to (Genesis 2:16-18) | | | |
| | | 1 | God gave broad | | | |
| | | 2 | God gave one | | | |
| | | ۷. | It reminded them <i>they</i> were not God, that God had a | | | |
| | | | legitimate claim on their obedience, and that they were | | | |
| | | | responsible to Him. | | | |
| | | 2 | · | | | |
| | | э. | God gave man over creation. | | | |
| | am spoke. (Genesis 2:19-25) | | | | | |
| | | | Adam named all | | | |
| | | 2. | Adam named | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| II. | Pe | rfe | ction and peace attacked by the deceiving enemy | | | |
| | | | esis 3:1-13) | | | |
| | • | | tan talked to | | | |
| | Α. | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | ۷. | Satan knew where Eve | | | |
| | В. | Ev | e dialogued with | | | |
| | | 1. | Eve should have | | | |
| | | | (Ephesians 4:27; James 4:7) | | | |
| | | 2. | Our own understanding will always | | | |
| | | | (Proverbs 3:5-6) | | | |

C. Satan's communication has an unchanging agenda.

You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature; for he is a liar, and the father of lies. John 8:44

| 1. | His words will foster | in me. |
|----|--------------------------------|--------------|
| | (Genesis 3:1) | |
| 2. | His words will challenge God's | |
| | over me. | |
| 3. | He lies and | God's truth. |

(Genesis 3:4)
4. He tries to get Eve to doubt the ______ of God

(Genesis 3:5)

5. His final enticement is for Eve to think she could be like

. (Isaiah 14:14; 47:10; Jeremiah 17:9)



The devil's main lie to us is "Sin is desirable, and God is unreasonable."

III. The effect of the fall on your tongue

- A. God describes your tongue. (James 3:5-10)
 - 1. A fire
 - 2. A world of iniquity
 - 3. Set on fire by hell
 - 4. Untamable by man
 - 5. Restless evil
 - 6. Full of deadly poison
 - 7. Sends forth blessing and cursing

B. God prescribes the remedy for your tongue.

- 1. Redemption through Christ (I Peter 1:17-19)
- 2. Transformation by Christ (Romans 12:1-2)

IV. The communication warfare (Ephesians 6:11-13)

A. God has a holy purpose for your words.

- 1. To reflect Him and accurately represent Him
- 2. To exalt and glorify Him
- 3. To edify others

B. Satan has an evil purpose for your words.

- To deceive
- 2. To distort
- 3. To destroy

been?

4. To accuse – Adam blamed God: "the woman whom You gave to be with me"; Eve blamed Satan.

C. God hears and knows your every word.

- 1. He hears all your words spoken and unspoken. (Psalm 139:4)
- 2. Stop believing the enemy's lie that God does not hear you and does not know. (Psalm 59:7b)
- 3. There is a reckoning day. (Matthew 12:34b-37)

V. Looking within – take time with these questions and ask God to help you to be honest.

God designed communication. He gave us the gift of words. Our words are not our own for our own pleasure and purpose. Rather, our words are on loan. What kind of a steward have you

- Do your words challenge the authority of God?
 - Do you dialogue with the enemy?
 - Do you doubt God's Word?
 - Are you neglecting God's Word? this is also a tactic of the enemy.
 - Do you see the necessity for God's gracious control over your tongue?
 - God alone can transform your speech; you first need to see your desperate need.

Session 2: How Should God's Sovereignty Affect Your Speech?

Introduction:

Godly communication is rooted in a personal recognition of the sovereignty of God. Only when I submit to the rule of God, who has a perfect plan and is in complete control, will I begin to live and speak as He has purposed. Paul Tripp

| I. | | Understanding God's sovereignty A. God rules over the entire The earth is the LORD'S, and all it contains, the world, and those who dwell in it. Psalm 24:1 The heavens are Yours, the earth also is Yours; The world and all it contains, You have founded them. Psalm 89:11 Daniel 4:34-35 | | | |
|----|----|--|----------------------|--|--|
| | В. | God rules over His | (Ephesians 1:19b-23) | | |
| | C. | God rules over the specific | details of your | | |

(Genesis 24:48; Jeremiah 29:11; Romans 12:2)

D. God rules over your _____

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In Him, we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, which He lavished upon us. . . . In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory. Ephesians 1:3-8a; 10-12

| E. God rules over your | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| | (Romans 8:28-29: James 1:2-4) | |

F. God rules over all things for His _____ (Matthew 5:16; I Peter 2:12; Isaiah 42:8a; 43:7; 48:11)

II. Allowing God's sovereignty to affect your speech

- A. Since God rules over all the universe, you will never be in a circumstance in which He is not fully ______.
 - 1. You must submit to His rule.
 - 2. You must trust and obey His will.
 - 3. Does your speech reflect trusting obedience or doubting fear?

B. Because God rules over His church for His glory, you need to embrace His purposes and ______.

- 1. Are you critical of your spiritual leadership? (Hebrews 13:17)
- 2. Are you envious of others in your church family and speak ill of them? (I Corinthians 3:3b)
- 3. Do you praise the Lord when you do not understand what He is doing? (Hebrews 13:12-16)
- 4. Does your envy or fear cause you to compare your ministry with others? (I Corinthians 4:7; 2 Corinthians 10:12)

| C. Because God rules over the specific details of your li must look to Him and resist looking to your own | | Because God rules over the specific details of your life, you must look to Him and resist looking to your own . | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | 1. Look to God's leading moment by moment for everything, and talk with God continually. (Proverbs 3:5-6) | | |
| | | 2. God is over all, greater than all, and wiser than all. Praise and thank Him for everything. (I Thessalonians 5:18; Philippians 4:6) | | |
| | D. Because God is sovereign over your salvation, you mus reject your pride and | | | |
| | | 1. You must recognize your salvation is all God's grace without any personal merit on your part. (Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:4-7; Galatians 2:16) | | |
| | | God hates any pride or arrogance in your heart and in your words. (James 4:6-8) | | |
| | E. | Because God rules over circumstances for your sanctification you must yield yourself to His will and depend on His grace and power to live the Christian | | |
| | | 1. God hates when you grumble and complain about your circumstances. (Exodus 16:8b, 9b) | | |
| | | A thankful, trusting heart believes. (Romans 8:28, 38-39) You cannot sanctify yourself; You need God's power. | | |
| | | (Galatians 2:20-21) | | |
| | | 4. God promises trials in order to grow and sanctify you. | | |
| | | Will you fret and complain or trust and give thanks? | | |
| | | (2 Corinthians 12:9-10; John 16:33; James 1:2-4) | | |
| | F. | Since God rules over all things for His glory, you must seek to bring Him glory through your use of | | |
| | | (1 Corinthians 10:31; I Peter 4:11; Revelation 4:11) | | |
| III. | Lis | tening to two Old Testament men whose speech | | |
| | en | nbraced God's sovereignty | | |
| | A. | Joseph (Genesis 50:20) | | |
| | В. | Job (Job 1:20-22) | | |

IV. Bringing it home

- A. God has a standard for your words to glorify Him.
- B. The enemy battles to keep us from this standard to speak out of our *own* will.
- C. The war of words is really a war for sovereignty.
- D. Whoever or whatever rules your heart will control your words.

V. Looking within – take time with these questions, and ask God to help you be honest.

- What are your first words in moments of frustration or disappointment?
- How do you respond when you face something unexpected?
- How do you react to trials?
- How does your communication reveal a frustration with people and/or circumstances?
- How do you typically respond when your plans are disrupted?
- Do you encourage those around you to rest in God's sovereign care – to look for His loving hand? If so, how?
- Do your words acknowledge a belief in God's sovereign plan over all circumstances in your life? Are you resting or wrestling?
- God has a perfect plan and is in complete control. Will you trust Him?
- Do your words reveal your trust in your sovereign Lord?
- Do you need to confess and seek the Lord's forgiveness?
 He stands ready to forgive the honest, humble heart. He loves you.
 - questions adapted from Paul Tripp's War of Words, p. 84.

Session 3: How Should Ambassadors for the Sovereign Speak?

Introduction:

If we watched a video tape of your life and paid close attention to your conversation with people, what would we conclude? What or who are you living for? What are you seeking to accomplish? What is God's mission for your mouth?

- I. What is an ambassador?
 - A. One who represents / reflects the King
 - B. One who has a clear understanding of the King's mission
 - C. One who speaks consistently with the King's methods, purposes, and character
 - D. One who does not seek her own interests
 - E. A full-time commitment "no part-time hours"

 For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; and He died for all, that they who live should no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf . . . therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us. 2 Corinthians 5:14-15, 20a
- II. Christ is our example of surrendered obedience and allegiance to His Father.
 - A. Christ revealed the Father. (John 5:43; 14:9b)
 - B. Christ fulfilled His Father's will (mission). (Matthew 26:39; John 17:4)

| C. C | hrist spoke | according | to His | Father's | purposes. |
|------|-------------|-----------|--------|----------|-----------|
|------|-------------|-----------|--------|----------|-----------|

(John 14:10; Isaiah 50:4; Mark 6:34; Luke 4:22a)

- 1. That which affords joy, pleasure, delight, sweetness, charm, loveliness, grace of speech
- 2. Good will, loving-kindness, favor
- 3. The spiritual condition of one governed by the power of divine grace
- Christ perfectly reflected His Father's glory as He perfectly fulfilled His Father's will.
- We are to be imitators of Christ (Ephesians 5:1); called to be ambassadors for our Lord.

III. What words are not suitable for an ambassador of Christ?

| | | to put off (throw off like a filthy ot fit or suit Christ's ambassadors. |
|-------------|--|---|
| | Colossians 3:8-9) | |
| 1. | · | a chronic attitude of |
| | smoldering hatred | |
| 2. | | an acute outburst of anger |
| 3. | | the vice that lies below anger |
| | and wrath/rage, desir | e to injure |
| 4. | _ | evil speaking to injure another's |
| | good name | |
| 5. | · | shameful or filthy language, |
| | foul or obscene | , , , |
| | | |
| 6. | • | deliberate falsehood or deceit |
| 6. | · | deliberate falsehood or deceit |
| | | deliberate falsehood or deceit to put off as His ambassadors. |
| G | | to put off as His ambassadors. |
| G | od tells us more words phesians 4:25, 27, 29-3 | to put off as His ambassadors. |
| G (E | od tells us more words phesians 4:25, 27, 29-3 | to put off as His ambassadors. 1; 5:4) unwholesome, rotten words |
| G (E | od tells us more words Ephesians 4:25, 27, 29-3 | to put off as His ambassadors. 1; 5:4) unwholesome, rotten words shouting |

(2 Corinthians 12:20)

quarreling
 whisperings

C. Recognize the sinful roots of sinful speech in a believer. (Underline in text)

With it we bless our Lord and Father; and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God; from the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way. . . . Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. James 3:9-10, 13-16

For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart. The good man brings out of his good treasure what is good; and the evil man brings out of his evil treasure what is evil. But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned. Matthew 12:34b-37



Your sinful words grieve the Holy Spirit and give the devil place (a foothold to lead you into greater sin).

IV. How can an ambassador's words model Christ's methodology to glorify Himself and transform lives?

A. Words of an ambassador for Christ will require self-sacrifice.

- 1. The cross is an instrument of death calling for total commitment.
- 2. Self-denial is a daily, ongoing, persistent yielding contrary to our flesh.
- 3. Jesus asked his followers, "Will you also go away?" Why did they leave? Following Christ meant dying to one's own will, ways, and ambitions.
- 4. Being an ambassador costs. We cannot just speak any way we feel. We must die to sin.
- Christ died for sins He had not committed.
 (Matthew 10:19-20, 32-39; 16:24-26; see also Luke 9:23-25. Mark 8:34-35; Luke 14:26-27; 17:33; John 12:25)

I die daily. I Corinthians 15:31b

B. Words of an ambassador for Christ will minister forgiveness.

- 1. Christ's ambassadors must not forget they are forgiven sinners.
- 2. Christ's ambassadors must not speak from a self-righteous heart.
- 3. Christ's ambassadors are indebted to God's love and grace and must manifest that grace and love to others. (Matthew 18:21-22, 23-35 parable of the unmerciful servant; John 13:34-35; Mark 11:24-26; Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 3:12-13)

C. Words of an ambassador for Christ will seek reconciliation.

- 1. God plans to use His ambassadors to reconcile people to Himself.
- 2. Relationship problems are opportunities God can use to draw people closer to Himself.
- 3. Ambassadors for Christ speak words of peace, restoration, encouragement, and unity.
- God is working redemptively in all of us; our words must contribute to what He is doing. (Ephesians 5:1-2; I Peter 3:8-12; I Thessalonians 5:13b-15; Colossians 3:14-15; Ephesians 4:1-3)

V. Bringing it home

- A. Christ came to free us from the bondage of self-love.
- B. The Holy Spirit of God lives within us to free us from the bondage to self.
- C. Our words could be gracious tools in the hands of God to accomplish His work of reconciliation.
- D. God calls each of us to live and speak as His ambassadors.
- E. This is not a part-time job but a lifelong calling.
- F. Everything we do and say as ambassadors is to reflect an awareness of the One whom we represent.

VI. Looking within – take time with these questions and ask God to help you to be honest.

- Where in your life do you find irritation, anger, or frustration that reveals a commitment to your own agenda and not to the Lord's?
- In what ways is God calling you to personal sacrifice in order to be His ambassador?
- Who have you failed to forgive?
- Where is God calling you to speak as His ambassador of reconciliation?
- Do your conversations encourage peace and unity?
- Do you need to seek God's forgiveness for your words?
 Why not now? (I John 1:9)

Session 4: Allowing God to Transform Your Words by Transforming Your Heart

Introduction: A Total Makeover

Remember, wrong words reveal a wrong heart. God wants to transform your heart in order to have you be the ambassador He intends you to be. This makeover is much bigger than you are! Can you experience victory over your words?

- I. You must claim and cling to these promises for transformation and victory over your words.
 - A. Forgiveness (1 John 1:8-9)
 - **B. Deliverance** (Romans 6:4-7, 12, 14)
 - C. Strength (Ephesians 1:18-20; 2 Corinthians 12:9)
 - D. Restoration/Reconciliation (Psalm 113:7; 2 Corinthians 5:17-18)
 - **E.** Mercy (Hebrews 4:16; Psalm 23:6a)
- II. You must confess and forsake these sins of the heart in order to speak Christ-like words.
 - Doubt
 - Fear
 - Anger
 - Vengeance
 - Self-righteousness

- Selfishness
- Hopelessness
- Jealousy and Envy
- Pride and arrogance
- Thanklessness

He who conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will find compassion. How blessed is the man who fears always, but he who hardens his heart will fall into calamity. Proverbs 28:13-14

The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart. Luke 6:45

III. You must put on these garments of the heart in order to glorify God and be like your King.

So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, **put** on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. **Beyond all these things put** on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father. Colossians 3:12-17

| A deep awareness | | deep awareness of another's |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | need and a desire to meet t | hat need |
| В. | | to speak in a way that is |
| | motivated by compassion | |
| C. | | a deep sense of one's [moral] |
| | littleness | |
| D. | | |

Gentleness does not mean compromising the truth. Rather it means keeping the truth from being compromised by harshness and insensitivity. Paul Tripp

| E. | ra | ther than human pressure, |
|------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | guilt, ultimatums | |
| F. | w | aiting; patience under |
| | pressure (I Peter 2:23) | |
| G. | as | S Christ forgave you |
| н. | th | ne glue that holds all of |
| | these together (I Corinthians 13: | 4-7) |
| | | |
| | Love brought Christ to this e | arth to redeem us. |
| Lo | ove will enable me to lay dow | n my life for another. |
| | | |
| I. | le | t Christ's peace rule instead |
| | of fear (Philippians 4:6-7) | · |
| J. | th | nis is a command we often |
| - | disregard (I Thessalonians 5:18) | |
| IV W | /inning the war of words invo | lves implementation of |
| | ertain strategies. | |
| | Recognize the destructive and co | onstructive power of words. |
| | (Proverbs 18:21; Galatians 5:15) | |
| В. | Claim the victory through Christ | to deny the flesh and obey |
| | the Spirit. (Galatians 5:16) | |
| C. | Speak words that forgive, restor | e, and edify others. |
| | (Galatians 5:13) | • |
| D. | Reflect and glorify your Sovereig | n King by the words you |
| -• | speak. (Colossians 3:17) | .6 |

- V. As women, let us ask God to do a total makeover of our mouths daily.
 - A. Let the Lord examine your heart. (Psalm 139:23)
 - B. Rely on the Holy Spirit to guard and keep your tongue. (Psalm 141:3)
 - C. Renew your mind through reading and meditating on the Word of God. (Romans 12:2; Philippians 4:8)
 - D. Choose your words carefully.

T Is it true?
H Is it helpful?
I Is it inspirational?
N Is it necessary?
K Is it kind?

E. Listen more. (James 1:19-20)

VI. Looking within – take time with these questions and ask God to help you to be honest.

Is it possible to consistently speak words that are as lovely and praiseworthy as apples of gold in pictures of silver? Yes, but only as God's sovereignty frames your heart and mind, and you remember you are an ambassador for this King. He has entrusted you to speak for Him, and He will hold you accountable for your stewardship of words. The task is beyond you! Will you see your daily, desperate need for the transforming work of God in your heart and depend upon Him to change you into His likeness for His glory?

- Is there a step of obedience your Lord is asking you to take right now?
- Will you let Him be sovereign in this particular step?
- What will you do with what you have heard?



A WORD FITLY SPOKEN IS LIKE *Apples of Gold* IN PICTURES OF SILVER.

Proverbs 25:11 KJV

- od created language, gave us the gift of words, and made us stewards over our words.
- ur speech should acknowledge the sovereignty of God
 - ive and speak as an ambassador for the King of Kings.
 - evelop a greater sense of urgency for God to transform your heart, the source of your words.