

OPEN HEAVEN 14 SEPTEMBER 2025 TODAY DEVOTIONAL

TOPIC: RAISE THEM WITH WHOLESOME WORDS

MEMORISE:

Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof. Proverbs 18:21

READ: James 3:1-12:

- 1 My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.
- 2 For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.
- 3 Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body.
- 4 Behold also the ships, which though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth.
- 5 Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!

- 6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.
- 7 For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind:
- 8 But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.
- 9 Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.
- 10 Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.
- 11 Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?
- 12 Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.

RCCG OPEN HEAVEN 14 SEPTEMBER 2025 TODAY MESSAGE

It is very important that parents speak the right words into their children's lives. Speaking the right words plays a huge role in laying a solid foundation for children. Unfortunately, some parents are careless with their words.

They are not diligent in processing what is in their hearts before they speak; therefore, what comes out of their mouths towards their children is not wholesome. Parents should bless their children, not curse them or make negative pronouncements on them.

When Rachel gave birth to her second son, she pronounced a curse on him because of the pain she went through in childbearing. If Jacob had not changed that name to Benjamin, that child would probably have lived a sorrowful life (Genesis 35:18).

Many people live in sorrow because of the evil pronouncements their parents made over them. Parents should not do that to their children; instead, they should use their mouths to bless them every day. They should also learn to keep some things that God reveal to them about their children to themselves so that they don't expose them to human and demonic attacks. Mary kept the things she had received concerning Jesus in her heart (Luke 2:19). It isn't everything God shows parents about their children that they should share. Some things are for an appointed time, they should wait for that time.

Parents should also not share everything about what is going on in their children's lives on social media. Social media is a marketplace with different kinds of people. If Mary or Joseph had been careless about the whereabouts of Jesus when God told them to leave for Egypt, Herod could have found a means to kill him in Egypt. Parents should be wise about sharing their children's information online. Some children have gotten into the wrong hands because their parents were careless.

Deuteronomy 6:6-9 says that parents must teach their children God's ways. They must tell them about His laws in the morning, noon, and night, and use every opportunity to drill God's word into their minds. If you're a parent, use your mouth to raise your children, not tear them down. My mother would always bless me by saying that when I call one person, hundreds will come running, and today, those

blessings have truly manifested in my life.

Let your words be seasoned with grace always (Colossians 4:6). Let your lips be a wellspring of life to your children. Let them always know they will meet words of life, not death, on your lips.

KEY POINT

Parents must speak life to their children daily

BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

Hosea 1-4

HYMN 59: I WANT TO BE LIKE JESUS

OPEN HEAVEN DEVOTIONAL 14 SEPTEMBER 2025 COMMENTARY

MEMORISE: Proverbs 18:21 (KJV)

"Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof." This verse is not a metaphor; it is a spiritual law. Words are containers of power. They can be conduits of creative, life-giving force or destructive, death-dealing force. The "fruit" refers to the tangible consequences—blessing or cursing—that inevitably manifest from the words we consistently speak.

BIBLE READING: James 3:1-12 (KJV)

This passage provides a sobering analysis of the tongue's power. James describes it as a small rudder that steers a large ship, a small spark that sets a great forest on fire, and an untamable world of evil. He concludes that blessing and cursing should not come from the same mouth, just as a spring cannot yield both fresh and salt water. This underscores the need for intentional, Spirit-controlled speech, especially for those in authority like parents.

The Parent's Tongue: A Tool of Construction or Destruction

Daddy Adeboye focuses this message on one of the most powerful applications of Proverbs 18:21: parenting. A parent's words carry immense weight because they are spoken from a position of Godgiven authority over a child's life. The devotional interprets that parents are not just caregivers but prophets and builders over their children. Every word spoken is either a brick used to build a foundation of confidence and destiny or a wrecking ball that tears it down.

The Peril of Careless Words

The example of Rachel (Genesis 35:18) is a stark warning. In a moment of pain and frailty, she spoke a curse over her newborn son, Benoni ("son of my sorrow"). Jacob's immediate act of renaming him Benjamin ("son of the right hand") was not merely semantic; it was a prophetic act to cancel the curse and release a blessing. The interpretation is clear: parents must be "diligent in processing what is in their hearts before they speak." Emotions like anger, disappointment, or exhaustion must not be allowed to dictate declarations over a child's destiny.

The Wisdom of Strategic Silence

The devotional provides a crucial second layer to the power of words: the power of silence. Using Mary as an example (Luke 2:19), the message teaches that not every revelation about a child should be spoken publicly. Some things are to be "kept in the heart"—treasured and protected until God's appointed time. Sharing a child's prophetic destiny or personal struggles prematurely can expose them to "human and demonic attacks," such as envy, witchcraft, or premature opposition, much like how Herod would have sought Jesus in Egypt if Joseph had been careless.

The Danger of Social Media Oversharing

This principle is applied to the modern context of social media. Platforms are described as a "marketplace with different kinds of people," implying the presence of both the good and the malicious. Posting a child's location, achievements, struggles, or intimate details can make them vulnerable to predators, identity thieves, and spiritual attacks. Discretion is not a lack of celebration but a form of spiritual protection.

The Mandate to Saturate with God's Word

The positive instruction is drawn from Deuteronomy 6:6-9. Parents are commanded to be the primary spiritual instructors of their children, using their words to constantly "drill God's word into their minds." This isn't a occasional activity but a continuous, integrated practice—"when you sit at home, when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." The goal is to create a home environment saturated with the life-giving truth of Scripture, which forms a protective shield around a child's soul.

The Testimony of a Blessed Life

Daddy Adeboye's personal testimony about his mother's words confirms the principle. Her specific, faith-filled blessing over him ("when I call one person, hundreds will come running") shaped his reality and has seen tangible fulfillment in his global ministry. This shows that parental blessings are not mere well-wishes; they are prophetic declarations that activate divine purpose.

Pray this:

"Heavenly Father, I repent for every careless word I have spoken over my children (or future children). I break every curse, negative pronouncement, or word of death spoken over them, in the name of

Jesus. Fill my heart with Your love and wisdom so that my words may be seasoned with grace. Make my tongue a wellspring of life. Help me to use my words to bless, instruct, and build them up in the ways of the Lord. Grant me the discernment to know what to share and what to treasure in my heart. I commit to being a parent who speaks life and covers my children in prayer and wisdom. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Action Steps:

- 1. **Perform a Word Audit:** Reflect on the common phrases and labels you use with your children. Are they life-giving (e.g., "you are kind," "you are capable," "God has a plan for you") or destructive (e.g., "you are so clumsy," "you never listen," "you are just like your difficult relative")?
- 2. **Establish a Blessing Ritual:** Intentionally speak a Scriptural blessing over your children daily, perhaps at bedtime or before they leave for school.
- 3. **Practice Silence:** Before sharing news about your child on social media or with friends, ask: "Is this necessary? Is this safe? Does this honor my child and protect their dignity?"
- 4. **Saturate with Scripture:** Choose a verse for the week and find creative ways to discuss it as a family (e.g., at mealtimes, in the car).
- 5. **Cancel Negative Words:** If you have spoken a negative word in a moment of frustration, apologize to your child and verbally cancel it by speaking a blessing instead.

Remember: Your home is to be a sanctuary of life-giving words. Your tongue, as a parent, holds the power to shape eternity. Use it to prophesy life, to declare destiny, to teach truth, and to build an unshakable foundation of love and identity in the hearts of your children.

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