

## LESSON 9 // IMPROVE YOUR VOCABULARY

**Big Idea:** From God’s perspective, gaining wisdom involves much more than how we think. It also involves what we say—the use of our words. To live a smart life, you must be willing to improve your vocabulary.

Your words lead, guide and direct your path in life. Sow words that seed your future and lead to a good harvest for you and those around you. Your words build or destroy, so it’s important that you develop a vocabulary that builds up rather than tears down. Ultimately you choose what you say—choose your words wisely, in a way that honors the Lord and is a blessing to others!

**Proverbs 18:21 (TEV)** *What you say can preserve life or destroy it; so you must accept the consequences of your words.*

**Ephesians 4:29 (TEV)** *Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed, so that what you say will do good to those who hear you.*

### Start Talking:

Do you tend to be a talker or more reserved with your words? How does this impact your relationships?

### Start Thinking:

**Read Galatians 6:7.** In what ways do “your words seed your future”? How should this affect what you say?

**Read Proverbs 12:18, 18:21 and Ephesians 4:29.** What do you learn from these verses about the impact of your words on yourself and others?

**Read Proverbs 16:23 and Ephesians 4:31.** Why is it so important that you consider your vocabulary carefully based on God’s Word?

**Read Psalm 19:14.** How does this verse speak to you about the choices you make in all your conversations?

### Start Praying:

Pray based on Psalm 19:14 for a heart and mouth that please God and honor Him.

### Start Doing:

Take an inventory of your words this week. Listen to what you say to God, to yourself and to others. Write down your observations. Also note changes you need to make so your vocabulary can be wiser and more in line with God’s standards for your words.