

# What Good Things Can We Do With the Tongue?

2 Timothy 1:13

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## INTRODUCTION:

### A. Lesson Texts:

1. **2 Timothy 1:13** – “Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.”
2. **1 Timothy 4:6** – “If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.”

### B. Multiple Scriptures convey to us the power of the tongue. The tongue has power:

1. The tongue has the power to send people forward as well as the power to hold people back.
2. The tongue has the power to build people up as well as the power to bring people down.
3. The tongue has the power to praise God as well as the power to curse God.
4. The tongue has the power to speak helpful words as well as the power to speak harmful words.
5. The tongue has the power to make someone’s day as well as the power to destroy someone’s day.
6. The tongue has the power to speak truth as well as the power to speak falsely.

### C. The tongue can be your best friend or your worst enemy.

1. Though small, the tongue has the power to transform lives.
2. Though small, the tongue can initiate wars.
3. Though small, the tongue can initiate peace.
4. Though small, the tongue can help you reach Heaven.
5. Though small, the tongue can guide you to hell.

## WITH THE TONGUE, WE CAN CONFESS JESUS CHRIST AS GOD’S SON.

### A. Please observe:

1. **It is a command** in **Matthew 10:32-33** – “Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.”
2. **It is an example** in **Acts 8:37** – “Then Philip said, ‘If you believe with all

your heart, you may.’ And he answered and said, ‘I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.’”

3. **It is necessary** in **Romans 10:10** – “For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

B. Have you confessed Christ as a part of obedience to Him?

### WITH THE TONGUE, WE CAN WORSHIP GOD.

A. **Romans 15:9** – “And that the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy, as it is written: ‘For this reason I will confess to You among the Gentiles, And sing to Your name.’”

B. **Hebrews 2:12** – “. . . I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You.”

C. **1 Corinthians 14:15** – “. . . and I will also sing with the understanding.”

D. **Psalms 104:33** – “I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.”

E. **Psalms 108:3** - “I will praise You, O LORD, among the peoples, And I will sing praises to You among the nations.”

### WITH THE TONGUE, WE CAN PRAY TO GOD.

A. **1 Corinthians 14:15** - “. . . I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit.”

B. **1 Thessalonians 5:17** – “Pray without ceasing.”

C. **Matthew 6:9** – “In this manner, therefore, pray : Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.” He then went on to give us the Model Prayer.

D. Not all prayers are audible. There is the example of Hannah in **1 Samuel 1:13** “Now Hannah spoke in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard . . .”

### WITH THE TONGUE, WE CAN VOLUNTEER FOR SERVICE IN GOD’S WORK.

A. **Isaiah 6:8** – “Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: ‘Whom shall I send , And who will go for Us?’ Then I said, ‘Here am I! Send me.’”

B. **1 Samuel 3:10** – “Now the LORD came and stood and called as at other times, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ And Samuel answered, ‘Speak, for Your servant hears.’”

C. The Lord’s followers are a volunteer army.

1. Volunteer to enter it through obedience.
2. Volunteer to serve in it through faithfulness.

### WITH THE TONGUE, MEN CAN PREACH.

A. **1 Corinthians 9:16** – “. . . Woe is me if I do not preach the gospel”

- B. **Mark 16:16** – “And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.”
- C. **Acts 10:42** – “And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead.”
- D. **Acts 8:35** - Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him.”

### **WITH THE TONGUE, WE CAN TEACH.**

- A. **1 Timothy 4:11**- “These things command and teach.”
- B. Aquila and Priscilla taught Apollos in **Acts 18:26** - So he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.
- C. **1 Corinthians 14:19** – “. . . That I may teach others also.”
- D. **Psalms 119:172** – “My tongue shall speak of Your word, For all Your commandments are righteousness.”

### **WITH THE TONGUE, ONE CAN SPEAK TRUTH WITH ONE’S NEIGHBOR.**

- A. **Proverbs 8:7** – “For my mouth will speak truth . . .”
- B. **Ephesians 4:25** – “Therefore, putting away lying, ‘Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,’ for we are members of one another.”

### **WITH THE TONGUE, ONE CAN LEND COMFORT TO OTHERS.**

- A. **1 Thessalonians 4:18** – “Therefore comfort one another with these words.”
- B. **Hosea 2:14** – “. . . And speak comfort to her.”
- C. **Job 16:5** – “But I would strengthen you with my mouth, and the comfort of my lips would relieve your grief.”

### **WITH THE TONGUE, ONE CAN ENCOURAGE OTHERS.**

- A. **1 Thessalonians 3:2** – “. . . sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith.”
- B. **1 Kings 22:13** - “Then the messenger who had gone to call Micaiah spoke to him, saying, ‘Now listen, the words of the prophets with one accord encourage the king. Please, let your word be like the word of one of them, and speak encouragement .’”

### **WITH THE TONGUE, ONE CAN CORRECT OTHERS.**

- A. Paul corrected Peter in Antioch of Syria. **Galatians 2:11, 14** - “Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed . . .  
(14) But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter before them all, ‘If you, being a Jew, live in the

manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews?”

- B. Peter corrected Simon the Sorcerer at Samaria in **Acts 8:20-22** – “But Peter said to him, ‘Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money!

You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God.

Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you.”

### **WITH THE TONGUE, ONE CAN DEFEND THE TRUTH.**

- A. **Jude 3** – “Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.
- b. **3 John 10** - “I will call to mind his deeds which he does, prating against us with malicious words . And not content with that, he himself does not receive the brethren, and forbids those who wish to, putting them out of the church.”
- c. **Philippians 1:7** – “. . . I have you in my heart, inasmuch as both in my chains and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel , you all are partakers with me of grace.”
- d. **Philippians 1:17** – “. . . I am appointed for the defense of the gospel .

### **WITH THE TONGUE, ONE CAN WARN OTHERS.**

- A. **Ezekiel 33:7-9** – “So you, son of man: I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore you shall hear a word from My mouth and warn them for Me.

When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you shall surely die!' and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand.

Nevertheless if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul.”

- B. **1 Thessalonians 5:14** – “Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all.”
- C. **1 Corinthians 4:14** – “I do not write these things to shame you, but as my beloved children I warn you.”

### **CONCLUSION:**

- A. Good things we can do with the tongue:
1. Confess Christ
  2. Worship God
  3. Pray to God

4. Volunteer in God’s work
5. Preach
6. Teach
7. Speak truth with our neighbors . . . all others
8. Comfort
9. Encourage
10. Correct
11. Defend
12. Warn

B. Consider these thoughts from God’s written Word:

1. **Psalm 34:13** – “Keep your tongue from evil, And your lips from speaking deceit.”
2. **Psalm 39:1** – “I will guard my ways, lest I sin with my tongue . . . “
3. **Psalm 139:4** – “For there is not a word on my tongue , But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether.”
4. **Proverbs 15:2** – “The tongue of the wise uses knowledge rightly . . .”
5. **Proverbs 21:23** – “Whoever guards his mouth and tongue Keeps his soul from troubles.”

C. **God’s Plan for Man’s Salvation**