



OAK GROVE ENCOURAGER

“And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works” Hebrews 10:24

SEPTEMBER 17, 2006

What Did You Say?

By Bruce J. Dehut

A few years ago I worked in the engineering department of a company that manufactured equipment for sawmills. I had been there less than a week, when I decided to go down to the break room to get something to drink. It was 9:30 AM and the rest of the people that worked on the shop floor were also in there. Now understand, I am not demeaning shop workers for being shop workers but the language in that small break room was toxic. If I would have had a device called a “**Cussometer**” it would have been off the scale. There were numerous conversations going on simultaneously and it was amazing to me that every fourth word I heard was a swear word. And I don’t mean little cuss words but the nastiest four letter words you

could imagine, (and I hope you can’t). I’m sure most of these guys didn’t even think about the words they spoke.

Matthew 12:36 "But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.

The word “Idle” in this verse means; lazy. In regards to the discussion it refers to someone with a limited vocabulary because of laziness. It’s much easier to just go with the flow, than to demonstrate some intelligence in our speech.

The point is, most of us are very keenly attuned to the foulest of language, but “**Euphemisms**” are overlooked for the most part. Let me explain the term. A euphemism is the substitution of an agreeable or inoffensive expression for one that may offend or suggest something unpleasant.

Most of us are probably well acquainted with the third commandment given to the children of Israel.

Exodus 20:7 "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

Leviticus 24:16 'And whoever blasphemes the name of the LORD shall surely be put to death. All the congregation shall certainly stone him, the stranger as well as him who is born in the land. When he blasphemes the name of the LORD, he shall be put to death.

The consequences were severe for transgressing this law but how many of us think nothing of saying “Oh, my Gosh” or

“Jeez.” How often has it happened that when you spoke those words and someone said “What did you say?” You see, even though we may assume it’s alright to use watered down swear words, it’s not. We place a stumbling block in the way of those listening to us. God through the Holy Spirit has warned us of inappropriate language.

Ephesians 4:29a Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth,

Ephesians 5:4a neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting,

We are instructed by the Lord how our speech should be;

Ephesians 4:29b ...word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.

Colossians 4:6 Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.

Tame the beast, get control of your tongue and make evident your maturity and love for the brethren and for God.

James 3:2 For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.

Oak Grove church of Christ
9203 Thixton Lane
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Oak Grove
Church of Christ

(502) 749-9209

Sunday

Bible Class:

9:30 AM

Morning Worship:

10:30 AM

Evening Worship:

6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Class:

7:30 PM

Evangelist:

Bruce J. Dehut

Home Bible Studies Available
Upon Request

I Refuse

I refuse to be discouraged, To be sad, or to cry;
I refuse to be downhearted, and here's the reason why:
I have a God who's mighty, Who's sovereign and supreme;
I have a God who loves me, and I am on His team.
He is all-wise and powerful. Jesus is His name;
Though everything is changeable, My God remains the same.
My God knows all that's happening; Beginning to the end;
His presence is my comfort; He is my dearest Friend.
When sickness comes to weaken me, To bring my head down low,
I call upon my mighty God; Into His arms I go.
When circumstances threaten to rob me of my peace;
He draws me close unto His breast, Where all my strivings cease.
When my heart melts within me, and weakness takes control;
He gathers me into His arms, He soothes my heart and soul.
The great "I AM" is with me. My life is in His hand.
The "Son of the Lord" is my hope. It's in His strength I stand.
I refuse to be defeated. My eyes are on my God;
He has promised to be with me, As through this life I trod.
I'm looking past all my circumstances, To Heaven's throne above;
My prayers have reached the heart of God I'm resting in His love.
I give God thanks in everything. My eyes are

on His face;
The battle's His, the victory mine; He'll help me win the race.
I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me!!!!
Pass it on!
"Vision is not seeing things as they are, but as they will be..."

-Unknown

Doing the Work of Righteousness

Divine inspiration was suspended after the apostles but there were a few second generation Christians that reiterated and expounded godly principles in writings of their own. The following addresses clearly that it is not faith alone that justifies a person before God. (bjd)

An excerpt of Clement of Rome ca. AD 95

What then shall we do, brothers? Shall we idly abstain from doing good, and forsake love? May the Master never allow this to happen, at least to us; but let us hasten with earnestness and zeal to accomplish every good work. (2) For the Creator and Master of the universe himself rejoices in his works. (3) For by his infinitely great might he established the heavens, and in his incomprehensible wisdom he set them in order. Likewise he separated the earth from the water surrounding it, and set it firmly upon the sure foundation of his own will; and the living creatures which walk upon it he called into existence by his decree. Having already created the sea and the living creatures in it, he fixed the boundaries by his own power. (4) Above all, as the most excellent and by far the greatest work of his intelligence, with his holy and faultless hands he formed man as a representation of his own image. (5) For thus spoke God: "Let us make man in our

image and likeness. And God created man; male and female he created them." (6) So, having finished all these things, he praised them and blessed them and said, Increase and multiply." (7) We have seen that all the righteous have been adorned with good works. Indeed, the Lord himself, having adorned himself with good works, rejoiced. (8) So, since we have this pattern, let us unhesitatingly conform ourselves to his will; let us with all our strength do the work of righteousness. (1 Clem. 33)

Eph. 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

James 2:18 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

THINK ON THESE

Remember, amateurs built the ark.
Professionals built the Titanic.

Opportunity may knock once,
but temptation bangs on your door for years.

Some minds are like concrete,
thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.

Funny how we call God our Father and Jesus our brother, but find it hard to introduce them to our family.

Obstacles are what you see when you take your eyes off the goal.

THE LORD'S DAY PRIVILEGE LIST

Sunday Morning Service

Announcements: **J.O. Smith**

Song Leader: **Greg Walker**

Opening Prayer: **Brian Shepherd**

Lord's Table: **Bill Milliner
Jr. Stout
David Shepherd
Larry Runner**

Scripture Reading: **Chuck Sharp**

Sermon: **Bruce Dehut**

Closing Prayer: **Steve Smith**

Sunday Evening Service

Announcements: **J.O. Smith**

Song Leader: **Greg Walker**

Opening Prayer: **Doug Smith**

Sermon: **Bruce Dehut**

Lord's Table: **Bill Milliner**

Closing Prayer: **Brandon Yates**