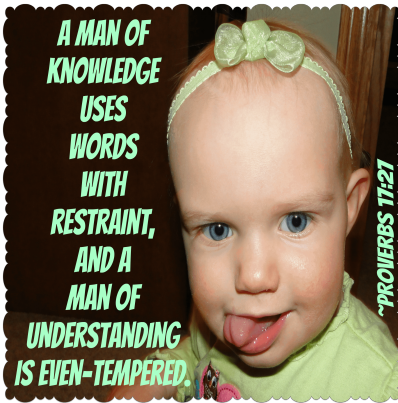




Fresh Water

Description

With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be. Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? My brothers, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water. (James 3:9-12)

I saw a great example of this passage of Scripture the other day when I was walking with a friend, let's just call her "Charlie". Charlie has often mentioned the grace of God and all that she's been given. But on this particular walk, my friend decided to take the complaining route. Charlie launched into a whole discussion about what she doesn't have and how unfair it is. Just as Charlie was getting to the tip of her feelings, we walked by a little boy crying. This was great! I turned to Charlie and said, "That's how you sound to God right now!" We both got a good laugh out of it and enjoyed the rest of our walk.

Unfortunately, many of us take the route of complaining and often sound like the little boy crying because his sister is beating him on a race with her bike. We cry, we complain, and we crowd out the grace of God by our whining. Our mouths are filled with fresh water and salt water on a daily basis. We choose to daily surrender our desires and our hopes to the Lord. We choose to be fresh water or salt water every day.

Does the water that come from your lips refresh others or leave them thirsty? Do people experience the love of God through your words? Has anyone come to know God's grace through what you say?

Do you remember the story of Jesus with the woman at the well? Jesus offered her fresh water. He offered her new life. Here are His words...

Jesus answered, "Every one who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (John 4:13-14)

Does the water from your lips lead people to a better understanding of Eternal Life? Will you be fresh water or salt water for someone today?

Dear Father God, I pray that my mouth will be a spring of fresh water. May the water that pours forth from my lips be nuturing and kind. May every word glorify you! I pray that when people come in contact with me, they will experience the One who gives life. I want to point people back to you... the source of Living Water for my soul!

May Fresh Water spill forth from my life,

Category

1. Identity in Christ

Tags

1. Fresh
2. James
3. John
4. Psalm
5. Tongue
6. Water

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