

## 3/26/17 | WISE UP: Conflict



*"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable  
in Your sight, O LORD, my rock and my Redeemer."*

—Psalm 19:14 | NASB

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Have you ever tried to communicate with someone who just didn't seem to speak your language? What happened? How did you understand each other?
2. What are your thoughts about the idea that many conflicts are the result of misunderstandings?
3. When communicating, do you pay more attention to speaking or listening? Why is that?
4. In the Bible, the word for "tongue" is mentioned over 100 times... not counting all the occurrences of "mouth" or "lips."  
Consider the role of tongues and speech in regards to conflict in the following verses:  
-Proverbs 21:23  
  
-Matthew 15:8-11  
  
-James 3

Do you think James overestimates the power of the tongue? How important is the tongue according to the Bible?

5. Read Isaiah 6:1-8. Why did Isaiah react to God's presence by condemning his lips? How would you react?

6. Compare and contrast Jeremiah 9:3-9 with Psalm 34:11-15. What can we learn from this? How should we use our tongues?
  
7. What does God promise in Isaiah 45:23? What does that tell you about the purpose of your tongue?
  
8. Consider ways you can honor God with your words this week by attempting to resolve some conflicts in your life.

**TAKE AWAY:**

Which words describe your conversation? (Words that diffuse or words that escalate? Wise words or foolish words? Words that heal or words that hurt? Words that correct or words that criticize?)