

A Word on Wednesday from Pastor Tonia

"Words" 7/12/23

In the beginning was the One who is called the Word. The Word was with God and was truly God. From the very beginning the Word was with God. And with this Word, God created all things. Nothing was made without the Word. (John 1:1-4)

The Bee Gee's put out a song entitled *Words* – it was about a woman who's not sure she can believe her boyfriend, and he sings, "It's only words and words are all I have to take your heart away." Words are often all we have to tell our story, to tell another we care, to lift up others, to show them our love.

Words are also all which is needed to tear one down, to crack armor, to start a war, to fan a feud, to deflate another's self-esteem. Words. Words are all it takes to destroy or to build-up.

Authors write to make a difference. In books we learn and are enlightened, we are moved to tears, we are angered, we find peace, we discover ourselves, we have adventures, are told how we are to live, see who we want to be, where we want to go, how we are to see others. In books we enter into a mystery, we see the world in a new way. Our views are challenged,

God's Word became flesh and lived among us. God's Word, scripture, is a road map. From creation, however or whenever that happened, talk about mystery, to destruction, from death into life. In it are promises and warnings. God's Word is a love story, a tell all, a reminder of how we are or are not to live.

God's Word is all we need. It guides us to worlds far away. In God's Word our minds and hearts are touched. We learn wisdom, we find peace, we receive advice, our imagination is awakened, we are challenged, we are accepted and loved. Here we find truth, we are not lied to or about. The prophet Ezekiel reminds us of God's steadfastness, here God decrees, "What I say, I'll do." (Ezekiel 12:25)

The power of God's Word. The world was "called into existence by God's Word, what we see created by what we don't see." (Heb 11:3) Why "As soon as God spoke the world was created; at His command, the earth was formed." (Ps 33:9) By faith we believe this because we know, "What God says, He will do."

Our words, also, have power. Small lies can break hearts, cause division; kind words can heal hearts and bring peace. Let Christ be seen in you by your words and works – we are to live out the words we speak, the words we have taken to heart from scripture. We've place God's Words within ourselves. As Paul wrote to the Colossians, "Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father. (Col 3:17)

Be careful with your Words, they are powerful; also, be intentional with your actions. "Be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. (James 1:22) So put God's Word within you, lift yourself up, form your being, and show God's love to others through what you say and do. Be kind as God is kind, loving all in word and work.

Please pray with me:

God of all truth, creator of all things, we give thanks for Words, written and spoken, from which we learn of You and of Your perfect love. Help us to dedicate our words to You. May our words heal and bring peace. May they encourage and uplift. May our words reflect Your Word.

Amen.