

Proverbs Series #11: The Cut-Flower Conundrum

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Proverbs 12

¹⁶A fool's anger is known at once, but a prudent man overlooks an insult.

¹⁷He who speaks the truth declares what is right, but a false witness speaks deceit.

¹⁸Speaking rashly is like a piercing sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

¹⁹Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue lasts only a moment.

²⁰Deceit is in the hearts of those who devise evil, but the counselors of peace have joy.

²²Lying lips are detestable to the LORD, but those who deal faithfully are His delight.

²³A shrewd man keeps his knowledge to himself, but a foolish heart proclaims its folly.

²⁵Anxiety weighs down the heart of a man, but a good word cheers it up.

Breakdown:

1. It is unwise to carry around wounds that are easily reopened. True **forgiveness** is essential to act wisely. V. 16
2. It is unwise to pass along things that have not been **verified** as true. V. 17
3. Our **words** have enormous power. This power must be used to bring **healing** to other people's souls. V. 18
4. A commitment to truth gives us a lasting **legacy**. V. 19
5. Peacemaking produces **joy** in us. V. 20
6. The test of speaking truthfully is in the **intent** of the speech. We must deal faithfully with others. V. 22
7. We must be **comfortable** in our relationship with God so that we do not have to feel the need to impress others with what we know. V. 23
8. We must not pile on anxiety to others. Our words must be used to **build up** others. V. 25

Application:

1. Put a checkmark by at least three of these proverbs that you want God to help you with.
2. Let's spend some time in prayer and take each verse to God and ask for His help in applying these Proverbs.