

Who's Your Landscaper?

Who's Your Landscaper? In simple humility, let our gardener, God, landscape you with the Word, making a salvation-garden of your life. James 1:21 The Message

How's your Word Life?

I thank God that I am a child of the Living God. All things that pertain unto life and godliness have been given unto me.

I have been positioned to win or succeed in every given situation. Therefore, I refuse to live in fear, doubt or unbelief.

I believe that I am ready for anything and equal to anything that comes my way, through Christ who is infusing me with inner strength.

I am blessed to be a blessing.

I am blessed when I get up in the morning and I am blessed when I lay down.

I am the head and not the tail.

I am above, only, and not beneath.

I am growing daily in the things of the Lord and His Word is changing the way I think, the way I feel and the way I make my choices.

Today I will speak life and not death into every situation of my life and I will not experience death but live to demonstrate His goodness.

How's your profession of faith going? Have you accepted the 30 Day Challenge? Are you remembering to make your confession every day? If you haven't started yet, I double-dog-dare you to get with it!

The words that you speak are making a tremendous difference! Proverbs 18:21 says that the power of death and life are in the tongue. Think about the awesome possibilities that are right there on the edge of our tongue! As we learn to unlock the potential that is held within our words we are granted the incredible ability to produce great changes. We can move mountains, fill up valleys, stretch out crooked places and make a highway for our God to travel upon. Our words truly possess the power to change everything!

It's obvious that many are under the impression that their words aren't making that big of a difference. Hang around people long enough and you're apt to hear just about anything. I often hear people describe themselves using a plethora of superlatives that range everywhere from the negative to the sarcastic and back.

All the while these people defend themselves by proclaiming that it's all in good fun. The reality is, though, that words are seeds and seeds produce a harvest.

Our words can produce hurt or healing, joy or sorrow, encouragement or discouragement. Wisdom would suggest that we be a bit more selective with our words.

From time to time it is a good idea to take an honest look at our own self-talk. The way we think about ourselves creates an impressive impact upon the way we experience every aspect of life. Do you realize that the way we describe a thing is directly connected to the way we see the one who created that thing.

If, for example, you find it difficult to appreciate the way a certain make of pickup jars your body as if you were a rodeo cowboy attempting to endure 8 seconds on the back of a raging 2,000 pound bull while simply driving down the road, you'll probably have a negative opinion of the Ford Motor Company. On the other hand, if you truly enjoy the wonderful benefits of riding in luxurious comfort, you will more than likely be a die-hard Chevrolet fan. Either way, the way you describe a thing is directly connected to the way you view the manufacturer of that thing.

Likewise, our enemy realizes that if he can sabotage the way we describe our self he can influence the way we view the one who created us. If we fail to see ourselves correctly our image of God will be out of perspective, as well. Our words aren't only impacting the way we see our self, but they're also a clear picture of the view of God which we possess.

I'm not suggesting arrogance, but acceptance. To become arrogant is to move to the farthest side of the same issue and something that we might deal with on a separate occasion. Acceptance is the ability to humbly embrace the truth about yourself and the belief that you are who God says you are. Nothing more and absolutely nothing less.

We need to carefully examine our own self-talk. When describing ourselves do we use the same words that God uses? Don't be afraid to ask yourself, "Why not?" It's true that we may recognize changes that need to occur—but if our words possess the power to change things doesn't it make even more sense to speak the same thing that God speaks when talking about our self? His word possesses the ability to produce those needed changes!

God has NEVER called you a LOSER! I don't know the names you were called when you were a child or the level of verbal damage which you may have incurred during your formative years. However, if there is any one single voice that should carry weight with us it should be the voice of God. It is very possible that the most influential people in your life have used the wrong words to describe you. This might be the time to make some changes!

James said, "In simple humility, let our gardener, God, landscape you with the Word, making a salvation-garden of your life." When we accept the Word of God as the final answer regarding the way we view ourselves we are taking a giant step towards health and maturity. It is a good thing to line up our thinking with the Word. It is, in fact, the only reasonable thing to do.

Proverbs 8:13 reveals that the fear of the Lord includes hating the things which God hates. One of the things listed in that verse is "the forward mouth." A better translation would be "twisted speech." The fear of the Lord is to hate twisted speech. Twisted speech is using words to describe a thing that are not in alignment with the truth regarding that thing.

So get this! Walking in the fear of the Lord includes refusing to accept descriptions about yourself that don't line up with God's Word. As we read in James, we need to receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save our souls.

Our soul is made up in three parts which includes the way we think, the way we feel and the way we make our choices. The way we think about ourselves, the way we feel about ourselves and the way we make decisions regarding ourselves should all be influenced by the word ... not the world.

Accept what God has to say about you and get into agreement with His Word! Refuse to allow words to come out of your own mouth that are not in alignment with what God says. No more twisted speech! God says, "You're a conqueror. You're victorious." Don't consider yourself a loser. God says, "You're ruling and reigning upon the earth. You're seated in heavenly places in Him."

Stop living as if you were a victim. Live like the victor that God says you are! God says, "You know no defeat, only victory. The kingdom of God is within you.

You are filled with strength and power and positioned to win or succeed in every situation!" Make certain that you don't suggest with your mouth anything different from that!

School yourself into agreement with the Word. Study the Word and speak the Word. Speak only what the Word speaks about you. This will produce dramatic change in the way that you talk about yourself. Don't be intimidated by a deceiving devil that enjoys nothing more than hearing you use twisted speech when describing yourself.

Remove the road blocks that have been erected to keep you separated from the Truth about yourself and your God. Get busy building a highway in the desert for your God and watch what He can do through the life of somebody who is just crazy enough to speak His Word!

We believe in you!

Pastors Thom and Shelby