

WATCH

“Watch therefore : for ye know not on what day your Lord cometh. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what watch the thief was coming, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken through. Therefore be ye also ready; for in an hour that ye think not the Son of man cometh.” [Matt 24:42-44](#)

“Wherefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not vain in the Lord.”

1 Cor 15:58

- “Be sober, be watchful: your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour, whom withstand stedfast in your faith.”

1 Peter 5:8,9

"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit
you like men, be strong. Let all that ye do
be done in love." 1 Cor 16:13,14

WATCH WHAT WE THINK

- Prov 23:7 "For as he thinks in his heart, so is he."
- Matt 15:19-20 "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. These are the things which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man."

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honorable, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

Phil 4:8

WATCH OUR WORDS

They say - Ah suppose they do,
Can they prove the story true?
Suspicion may arise from naught,
But every malice, want of thought.
Why count yourself among the THEY
Who whisper what they dare not say?

They say - and if it should be so,
Why need you tell the tale of woe?
Will it the bitter wrong redress,
Or make one page of sorrow less;
Will it the erring one restore,
Thenceforth to go, and sin no more?

They say, - Ah! Pause and look within,
See how your heart inclines to sin?
Watch, lest in dark temptation hours,
You too, should sink beneath its power.
Pity the frail, weep over their fall;
And speak of good or not at all.

anonymous

"Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people." Lev 19:16

"He that hideth hatred is of lying lips; And he that uttereth a slander is a fool." Prov 10:18

"A perverse man scattereth abroad strife; And a whisperer separateth chief friends." Prov 16:28

"He that covereth a transgression seeketh love; But he that harpeth on a matter separateth chief friends." Prov 17:9

“Reville not the king, no, not in thy thought; and revile not the rich in thy bedchamber: for a bird of the heavens shall carry the voice, and that which hath wings shall tell the matter.”

Eccl 10:20

A little bird told me.





THREE GOLDEN GATES

The first golden gate is, "Is It True." For most people this is the only gate they let their words pass through. Who has not heard someone retort "well, it is true isn't it", right after they had slaughtered someone with a few poison words? This is poor diplomacy at best and is often used as a cloak of maliciousness. That something is true is not a mandate for you to repeat it to the hurt of others. It is no secret that truth without love is cruelty and love without truth is sentimentality. Many truths are weapons in the hands of those whose motive it is to hurt. Truth then is only gate number one, so let's move on.



The second golden gate is, **“Is It Needful.”** Regardless of the veracity of what you are about to say, do you really need to say it? Here is where a lot of retort will fail to report. Most of the nasty things repeated would have no sting at all if they attempted to pass through gate two. People who care about others, who understand the weight of words and who seek love are those who have a second golden gate. The power of this golden gate comes from the golden rule. When we disregard someone else's peace, privacy or dignity, who will guard our own?



The third golden gate is, **“Is It Kind.”** This is the gate that causes a person to honestly look at their own motives for saying something. True things can be spoken to hurt.

Un-needful things are spoken daily by the careless and indifferent. Words spoken without love are the worst of the bunch because they have a lingering and damaging effect, whose poison goes on and on. They are the great enemy of mankind. They are the precursors to every evil result from hatred to murder. Most words that have made it through the first two gates will fail at gate number three.



Is It True? Is It Needful? Is it Kind?

These gates are useful in almost every personal relationship you will ever have. They can help marriages, families, and any interaction with anyone on any level. They require a conscious effort to use and in time you will become more skillful at using them; but in every case you will become a better person for trying.

A soft answer turneth away wrath; But a grievous word stirreth up anger. Prov 15:1

“A gentle tongue is a tree of life; But perverseness therein is a breaking of the spirit. Prov 15:4

- “A word fitly spoken Is (like) apples of gold in network of silver.” Prov 25:11
- “Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer each one.” Col 4:6

"She openeth her mouth with wisdom; And the law of kindness is on her tongue."

Prov 31:26

"And I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." Matt 12:36,37

Wouldn't this old world be better
If folks we meet would say,
"I know something good about you!"
And then treat us just that way?

Wouldn't it be fine and dandy
If each handclasp, warm and true
Carried with it this assurance,
"I know something good about you".

Wouldn't life be lots more happy
If the good that's in us all
Were the only thing about us
That folks bothered to recall?

Wouldn't life be lots more happy
If we praise the good we see?
For there's such a lot of goodness
In the worse of you and me.

Wouldn't it be nice to practice
That fine way of thinking too?
You know something good about me.
I know something good about you.

anonymous

WATCH OUR ACTIONS

“For we must all be made manifest before the judgment-seat of Christ; that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he hath done, whether it be good or bad.” 2 Cor 5:10

“...and they were judged every man according to their works.” Rev. 20:13

**“Watch therefore for ye
know not that day the Lord
may come.” Matt 24:42**