



Faith
and
Technology

Hearing Each Other

Know our Intention

- avoid vilification of things
- stay well away from legalism with practices
- not avoid but honest engagement in biblical truth we can apply in our circumstances

Conviction - James 1:5 *"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."*

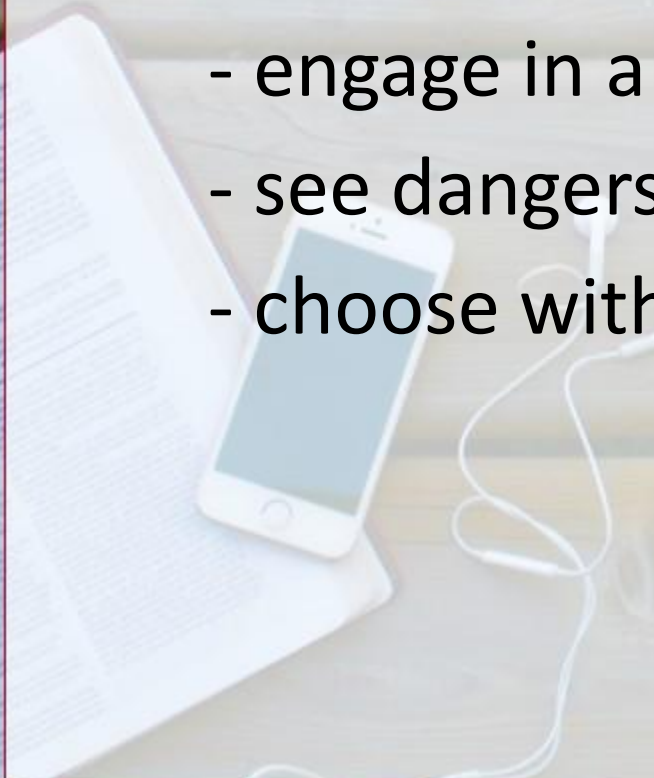
- wisdom – knowledge rightly applied

Letter – from the Screwtape Letter's Idea

- Ryan Griffith

Challenge in our Times

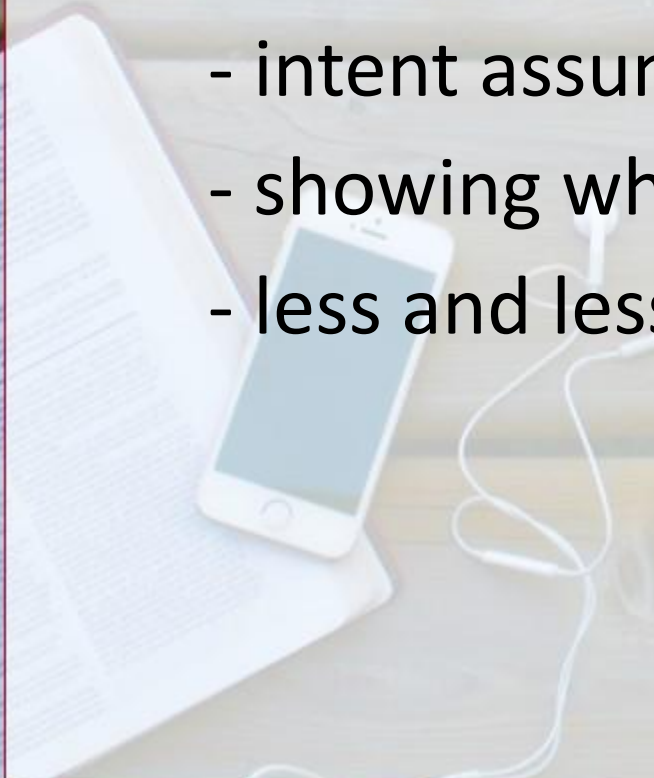
- live out the faith I hold
- engage in a changing world biblically
- see dangers, things my enemy can use
- choose with wisdom



1. Hearing Hearts Well

a) challenges I see from my perspective

- information exchange
- lack of context re: conclusions & proclamation
- intent assumed
- showing what I want you to see, nothing else
- less and less able to be known



b) Scripture on Clarifying what you Hear

- discernment a crucial skill
- intentional, takes time, care, clarification

James 1:19 “ Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be **quick** to hear, **slow** to speak, **slow** to anger”

Proverbs 10:19 “When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.”

Col. 4:6 “Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.”

Titus 3:2-3 “to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another”



2. Having Your Say

a) challenges from my perspective

- everyone has an opinion, not all informed
- information is shaped for my response
- easy to respond from behind a keyboard

Troll (verb) 'to intentionally provoke others online with tactics ranging from starting unnecessary arguments to seeking to damage someone's reputation.'

The Pew Research Center conducted a study that stated at least "one in three online teens have experienced online harassment."

‘In an age when anyone with a smartphone can publish dirt on anyone else, we must know that spreading antagonistic messages online, with the intent of provoking hostility without any desire for resolution, is what the world calls ‘trolling’ and what the New Testament calls ‘slander’. (166)

‘Each of us have an inner troll, an inner slanderer—some part of us that would love to text some dirt to a friend, publish dirt online, and anonymously consume that dirt online.’ (169)

Tony Reinke in his book *12 Ways Your Phone is Changing You*

b) Biblical Truths

*** Your Speech Matters***

James 3:2-12 “For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. ³ If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴ Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵ So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire!

⁶ And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. ⁷ For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸ but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

⁹ With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God.

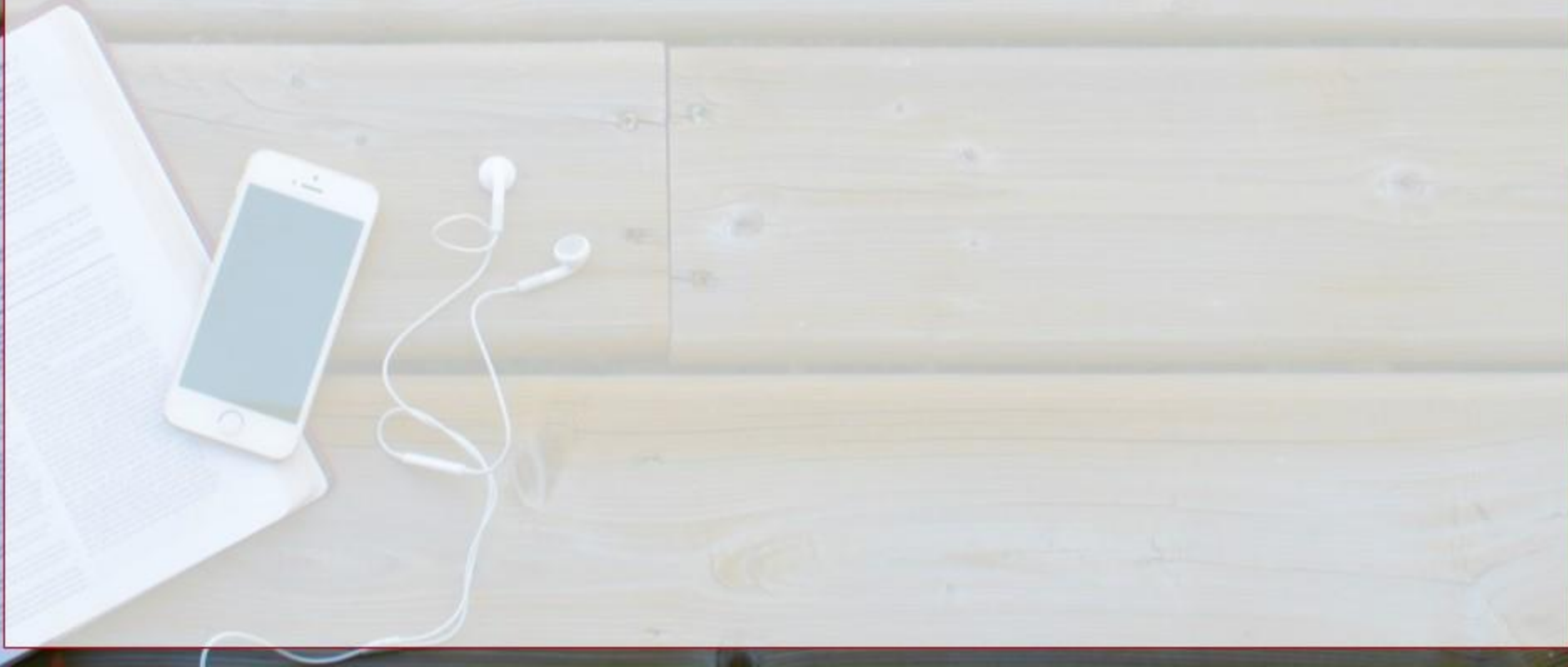
¹⁰ From the same mouth come blessing and cursing.

My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹ Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹² Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.”

- Incredible Power
- Huge Impact on World
- Reveals Heart



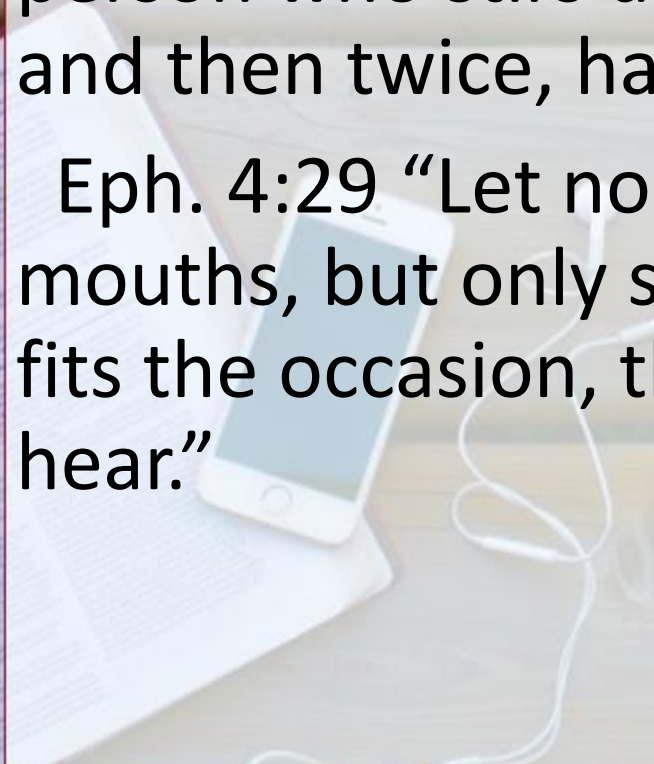
Matthew 12... “For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks... ³⁶ I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, ³⁷ for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”



* Choose What You Respond To *

Titus 3:9-10 “But avoid foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless. As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him,”

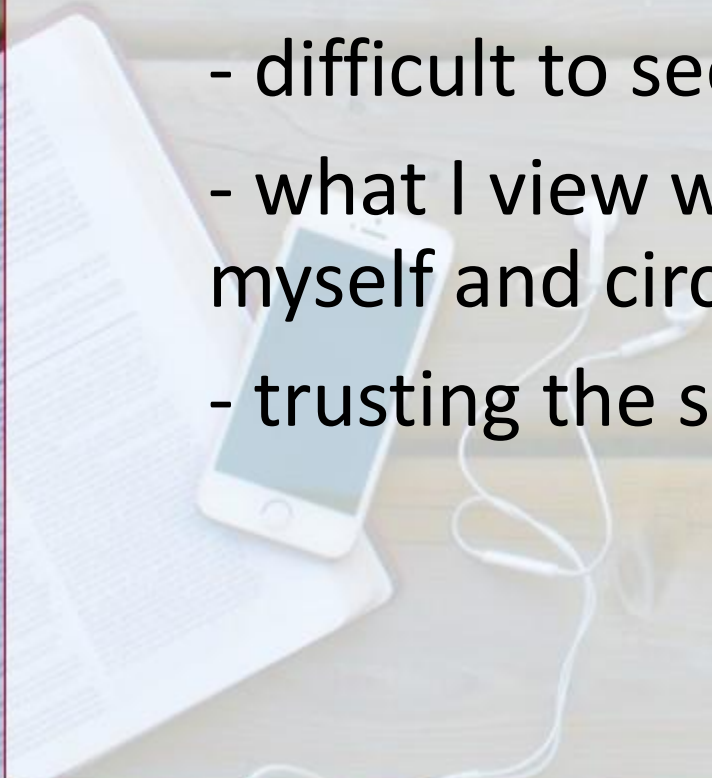
Eph. 4:29 “Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.”



3. Heart Matters

a) challenges from my perspective

- difficult to see the motivations
- wording chosen to provoke response
- difficult to see the lie, trap, bait
- what I view will affect my emotions, view of myself and circumstances, view of God
- trusting the source important



b) Scripture on our Motives and Heart

* intent Matters *

- 1 Cor. 13 – without love.....

- 2 Tim. 2:14 “Remind them of these things, and charge them before God not to quarrel about words, which does no good, but only ruins the hearers.”



* Presence Important *

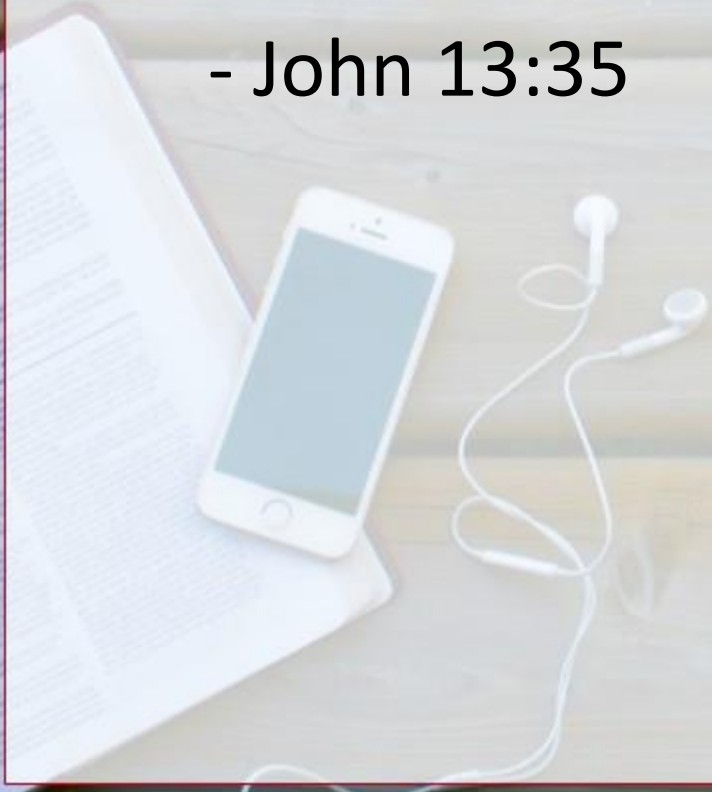
- 2 John 12 “Though I have much to write to you, I would rather not use paper and ink. Instead I hope to come to you and talk face to face, so that our joy may be complete.”

- 3 John 13-14 “I had much to write to you, but I would rather not write with pen and ink. I hope to see you soon, and we will talk face to face.”

- 1 Thess. 2:17, 3:10

* We Are Witnesses *

- Phil. 2:15 Lights
- 2 Cor. 5:19-20 Ambassadors
- Acts 1:8 Witnesses
- John 13:35 Identified by Our Love



- Titus 2:7-10 “Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, ⁸ and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us. ⁹ Bondservants are to be submissive to their own masters in everything; they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, ¹⁰ not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior.”

So What?

Technology a Fantastic Tool

Principles to Apply

Hear Hearts Deeply

Have Your Say Carefully

Heart Intention reviewed Often

